

The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905

'Midd Kid' video stirs controversy

By Kara Shurmantine
News Editor

The much-anticipated music video to "Midd Kid," by the Allen Jokers, which premiered on Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Donald E. Axinn '51 Center at Starr Library, continues to stir controversy among all members of the College community. Some see the video as an honest interpretation of campus social life; to others, it represents little more than amusing satire; still others reject its emphasis on certain social groups and behaviors to the exclusion of others.

The song "Midd Kid" is the creation of Sam Robinson '11 who, with the help of his older brother and Colin Meany '11, composed the lyrics. Using Logic Studio and the additional vocals of Phil Gordon '11, Andrew Plumley '11 and Alyssa Limperis '12, they mixed and recorded the song and, last November, shared the finished product with some friends.

Until then, the group had not seriously considered filming anything more than an amateur video with handheld cameras. But through the encouragement of Michaela O'Connor '11, a Film and Media Culture (FMMC) major, they connected with Shane Mandes '10, also a FMMC major, and Aaron Becker '10, who runs the business side of Windward Enter-

tainment, a film production company based in Los Angeles. The two offered to produce a professional music video through Becker's company, and when Robinson agreed, the group entered into the planning process.

Two months later, Aram Rappaport, the video's director and Becker's partner at Windward, flew from Los Angeles with filming equipment, and shooting took place on campus over the weekend of Jan. 23-25. After two weeks of editing the raw cuts, the video premiered this past Saturday and was released on YouTube and the Allen Jokers' Web site on Sunday.

"It started out as a small thing," said Mandes. "But then the popularity really started to get out of control, and we realized it could be a lot bigger of a project."

Some find offense in the Allen Jokers' blatant exploitation of common stereotypes of Middlebury students for humor.

"It doesn't portray Midd in a fair way," said Sam Carlson '10. "It shows us as a bunch of partiers. During the refrain, they didn't even play on the Nalgene theme. Instead, they just showed scenes of people singing. They weren't playing off any of our cool stereotypes at all. That's what

SEE VIDEO, PAGE 3



Brihan Burke

PRETTY IN PINK

Members of the women's swimming and diving team adopted a pink theme for NESCACs last weekend. They also held a fundraiser for breast cancer and used a "Pink Panther" mascot. For the sports story, see page 24.

DJ Earworm to play Ball

By Anthony Adragna
News Editor

Renowned mash-up artist DJ Earworm will perform at the 87th Winter Carnival's "Go Gold" Ball on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 10 p.m. in Nelson Arena.

Students can purchase tickets for the ball ahead of time for \$12. Admission will cost \$15 at the door of the venue. DJ Officer Chris will open for Earworm.

Earworm, who's real name is Jordan Roseman, gained fame in 2007 for his "United States of Pop," which combined the 25 most popular songs of the year (as ranked by Billboard magazine) into one finished track. Two subsequent "United States of Pop" songs have also become viral video classics.

Born into a musical family in Iowa, Roseman majored in music theory and computer science at the University of Iowa. He began to produce mash-ups in 2003 using the popular music-mixing software program ACID.

His name plays on the term for a song that you cannot get out of your head. Roseman has earned praise for his style of composition, which layers songs on top of one another to create a new finished product.

Critics compare his style with that of past Middlebury performer Girl Talk, who offers a more deejay-oriented approach. Artists ranging from Annie Lennox to Kanye West to Sean Kingston have approved or contacted Roseman to create mash-ups of their hits.

Roseman authored a book on the art of mash-up creation called

"Audio Mashup Construction Kit" in 2006. When deejaying parties, Roseman uses his laptop and creates his mixes from Ableton Live, another software platform.

MCAB's Go Gold Ball will end a weekend of Winter Carnival activi-



Jordan Roseman, a.k.a. DJ Earworm.

ties. Students can attend a concert by 1980s cover band Orange Crush on Feb. 25 in McCullough Social Space at 10 p.m. Throughout the day of Feb. 26, ACTR buses will provide free transportation to see ski races at the Snow Bowl. That evening, comedians Jay Black and Pete Holmes will offer a joint comedy show at 9 p.m. in the McCullough Social Space.

For more information about Winter Carnival activities see go/gold.

Fumes force Allen evacuation

By Anthony Adragna
News Editor

Public Safety officers evacuated all residents of Allen Hall after an unknown person sprayed a fire extinguisher in one of the building's hallways, allowing the release of hazardous fumes into the air, around 2 a.m. on Feb. 20.

Students could not enter the dorm until 8 a.m. because the fumes from the fire extinguisher continued to set off the fire alarm system and Facilities Services had to clean up the extensive damage to the hallway. Many spent the night on chairs and couches in the Chateau and some

went to breakfast at Ross at 7 a.m. barefoot or in sleeping clothes.

Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah said the fumes from the extinguisher could have posed health problems.

"The chemical remained in the hallways and clogged some of the detectors so the system couldn't be reset without the help of Facilities Services," she said. "The Facilities Services staff member on call responded and either cleaned or replaced detectors."

Acting Commons Residential Advisor of Atwater Commons Claire Graves said an unknown resi-

dent sprayed a fire extinguisher in a second floor hallway of Allen Hall, which released dangerous fumes into the air.

"I instructed the residents to wait it out in Chateau rather than stand out in the cold, which they did," she said. "Eventually, we realized this was going to take a while, so I suggested that the residents use their friends in other dorms for any free futons, beds or couches, rather than wait up aimlessly."

In spite of those efforts, many residents elected to pass the evening

SEE FIRE, PAGE 4



Cha Tori

Members of the Socially Responsible Investing club await the Trustees.

Trustees approve financial model

By Cloe Shasha
Staff Writer

During last weekend's Trustee meetings, many of the recommendations that President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz made in his Public Address on College Finances were discussed and endorsed.

The Board of Trustees agreed that each year, the comprehensive fee should only increase by one percentage point of the annual Consumer Price Index.

Before this point was accepted, the Student Comprehensive Fee Committee gave a presentation about their recommendation for next year's fee at the opening meeting on Friday, according to David Donahue '91, special assistant to the President. Ad-

ditionally, the Faculty Council presented their reactions to Liebowitz's financial recommendations, which were overall positive reactions.

According to Frederick Fritz '68, the chair of the Trustees, there was a sense of relief among faculty that the College is at a point in which committing time, energy and resources to campus deficits is coming to an end.

"The financial situation was pretty all-consuming for many people over last 18 months," Fritz said. "Now that decisions have been made, it's time to look beyond and get back to more pleasant college endeavors and the business of education."

The other points that Liebowitz made in his public address were well received by the trustees as well.

"President Liebowitz' other recommendations were not subject to a vote," Fritz said. "They were endorsed and we liked them a lot."

However, according to Associate Professor of History Louisa Burnham, the Faculty Council expressed concern with the seventh recommendation in Liebowitz's address, which states that the College should address "the absence of salary increases that accompany significant career achievements, starting with the earning of tenure and the promotion to full professor status."

"We told the Board of Trustees that many faculty feel somewhat disheartened by recommendation number seven and fear that we will no lon-

SEE TRUSTEES, PAGE 4

this week



Maple Landmark Woodcraft

Learn about the last wooden toy company in the United States, page 7.

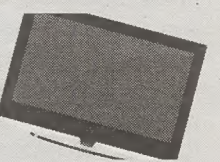


Life is a (Winter) Carnival

A look at Winter Carnival traditions past and present, pages 12-13.

(Mr.) Show Must Go On

Students come together to remake the classic HBO show, page 19.





overseas briefing

by Laura Budd '11

NELSPRUIT, South Africa—Being told that if you can't find a tree when charged by a rhino you should lie flat on the ground because it won't be able to reach you with its horn and will only be able to trample you does not inspire much confidence.

Amidst the snows of a Middlebury J-term I could not actually imagine myself being near enough to such creatures that I would need to worry about such things, but here I am in the Kruger National Park surrounded by many dangerous animals. Upon our arrival to Skukuza, the main camp in the Kruger National Park, we received the most humbling safety talks I've ever heard. We learned what to do if confronted with elephants, white rhinos, black rhinos, hippos, cape buffalo, leopards and lions, all of which we might encounter and all of which have the capacity to kill a person. If a rhino, hippo or buffalo charges you need to have an eye on the nearest tree and climb it immediately. However, elephants can push trees over and leopards and lions can climb trees, so tree climbing is a big no if they attack. If an elephant charges, it's best to run and start shedding backpacks and clothing as you run, as this will distract them temporarily and give you more time to escape. However, for lions and leopards you should *never* run. Running from them automatically makes you prey in their eyes. For lions, you should look them directly in the eyes and scream the worst possible curses at them to scare them off. Leopards you must never look directly in the eyes because this supposedly triggers an attack. Despite these worrying instructions, most often, you can back away slowly if you come upon any of these animals by surprise. While these warnings are a bit terrifying, we are yet to have any dangerously close encounters out in the field.

These warnings are necessary, though, because unlike most visitors to the Kruger National Park, we are able to get out of our game drive vehicles because we are expected to do research in the field. We are always accompanied by one or two armed game guards. We have been doing field research at sites along the Sabie river. Days in the field start early and end late and can be extremely exhausting, with temperatures reaching over 110°F. On a recent day off, we got to escape the heat and go paddling on the Sabie river, upstream of where it runs through the park. Like most adventures here, paddling has its own dangers as both crocodiles and hippos inhabit the Sabie river. This meant no swimming except in the relative safety of the rapids.

This of course did not stop us from having water wars as we paddled, splashing one another and tipping boats. And the feeling I got as we paddled downstream was unlike anything I've felt at home. It was a mixture of a fear of what was swimming about below me, a lot of excitement about what lay around the next bend, and tremendous awe at the landscape around me. This sense of awe is something I feel anytime we step into the field. It feels almost as if we are in Jurassic Park every time we hear the rustle or grunt of a large animal nearby. I half expect to see a T. Rex or triceratops lurch out of the brush. It is humbling to know that there are creatures out there that can easily overpower me. Knowing this commands an even deeper respect and awe for the natural world around me here, knowing I am a guest, very much at the mercy of my hosts.

Lengthy lines snarl lunch traffic

By Andrew Weaver
STAFF WRITER

In spite of extremely long lines at Ross and Proctor during the first weeks of spring semester, administration officials deny changes to the scheduling of courses could be responsible for the situation.

In response to what some call a particularly bad year for dining hall congestion, students have raised questions concerning course scheduling and a possible increase in class-release-time overlap. Some claim that many classes now finish at the same time, and more students have similar inter-class gaps in which they head to the dining halls for meals. As a result, students descend on Ross and Proctor at the same time, precipitating seating problems and long lines.

Though the theory certainly poses a logical explanation for dining hall overflow, Dean of Curriculum Bob Cluss is quick to debunk it as a myth.

"It doesn't seem likely that scheduling changes have led to congestion in the dining halls," he said, after consulting the Registrar's Office last Wednesday. "[This semester] is not unusual with respect to the number of classes that end at the same time."

Students continue to negotiate long lines in spite of the reassurance. Devin MacDonald '13.5 says that the initial weeks of her college dining hall experience have been "very overwhelming," and that "three or four out of 10 times the dining halls are more crowded than

I'm comfortable with."

The overcrowding has even prompted some students to form unhealthy solutions to the problem.

"One afternoon Proctor was so full I didn't even eat lunch," MacDonald admits. "The hallway was clogged and there were so many people that I just turned around and left."

Though she has missed only one meal due to overcrowding so far, she fears the troubles will continue.

"It's likely to happen again at some point. I really like Proctor's food at lunch, but I have so little time that I can't afford to wait in 10- or 15-minute lines," MacDonald said. "If it comes down to waiting for food or making it to my next class, I'm going hungry."

Other students, however, have not noticed any change in the eating habits of students from other semesters.

"They don't seem any worse than past semesters at peak mealtimes. A lot of people just like to blame the long lines on new Febs every time a batch of them comes in," said Christian Brady '12. "Soon everyone will find their grooves and eating times will start to stagger."

To an old problem mistaken for new with every passing semester, resolve seems possible only on an individual basis. By smoothing out daily schedules to include time for food in off-peak dining hall hours, students might ease their stress and avoid the unpleasant effects of "Ross Rage" that leave so many with grinding teeth and growling stomachs.



Darryl Johnson '12 negotiates a crowded Ross Dining Hall during the lunch rush last week. Saila Huusko / Photos Editor

CSO job fair offers seniors opportunities

By Amy Francisco
STAFF WRITER

The Career Services Office (CSO) will sponsor its eighth annual Spring Job Fling in Coltrane Lounge on Tuesday, March 2, where seniors still looking for jobs and juniors looking for summer internships will have the opportunity to speak to recruiters from a wide range of industries. The event, running through lunch hours (12-2) in Coltrane, gives seniors and juniors the chance to get potential internship and job leads as well as to practice their networking and interviewing skills with real employers in the industries they may be interested in pursuing.

At least 14 employers and graduate schools have confirmed their attendance so far at the event, including Duke University's Fuqua Business School, the Peace Corps, Infosys, the Southern Teachers Agency and Partnership for Public Service.

According to Don Kjelleren, senior associate director of Career Services, "I like to call it 'networking on training wheels.' The Spring Job Fling is not meant to be a job fair, but rather to complement what our career counselors do. Sometimes it's really hard and intimidating to talk to people face-to-face, but with this event, students have the chance to talk to live employers who want resumes and interviews on the spot without being in the pressure cooker of one of our off-campus events. These people are here to help, and they show a tremendous

amount of interest in Middlebury by willingly making the trip here instead of having us come to them."

In preparation for the event, the career counselors specializing in particular industries put together tables not only for the employers coming, but also with information on and opportunities available from other employers in similar fields. They also compile all the job opportunities currently available on MOJO and LACN, two of the online job search resources available to Middlebury undergraduates.

"We really want to give students a sense of the number of great entry-level, liberal arts appropriate jobs out there for undergraduates," says Kjelleren. "This event serves as a kind of call to action for the seniors who have not yet had the chance to go out and secure something. We're really trying to work with students to put their best foot forward, but in order to do that they need to show up and put energy into the search themselves. This event offers them one more chance to kick start the process."

The Spring Job Fling fits into the CSO's Senior Program, a year-long initiative geared toward helping graduating seniors not only find something to do after graduation, but also toward teaching them the life skill of how to conduct a job search. Although most of the major recruiting events, including four off-campus interview days in New York, Boston, and Washington D.C., as well as several graduate school

and job fairs held on campus, occur in the fall, the Spring Job Fling gives seniors who may not have been ready in the fall an opportunity to take advantage of all the resources the CSO has to offer.

"What's really different about this event," says Kjelleren, "is that the CSO Counselors take what we do here and go out and showcase it. It helps for seniors to realize that they are not alone in this job search process, that many of their classmates find themselves in the same circumstances, and that there is a support system in place to help them deal with it. Our hidden agenda for the event is to introduce ourselves to the seniors who many not have already come in to see us. This event can help seniors find out who the appropriate counselor to talk to about their industry of choice is. It also helps to show them the resources the CSO offers, including career coaching, practice networking, writing referrals, and looking over resumes."

Generally, between 150 and 200 seniors attend this spring event, and despite the change in location due to the new layout of the Ross Dining Hall, the CSO Counselors hope for a similar or even greater turnout this year.

"It's really about information gathering and making informed decisions," says Kjelleren. "In this job market, students serious about getting a job need to take advantage of every single networking opportunity, and it doesn't get much easier than this!"

Middbrief

by Anthony Adragna, News Editor

Several administrators will divide the various duties of Dean of the College Tim Spears during his leave of absence this spring.

Spears' responsibilities will be divided among Dean of Students Gus Jordan, Provost Alison Byerly and the Office of the President until he returns to the administration on July 1. He will use the absence to complete a book manuscript.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz discussed the division of responsibilities in an all-faculty e-mail. Jordan will serve as the College's chief student affairs officer, Byerly will oversee the work of Library and Information Services, and the Director for the Arts and the Scheduling and Communications offices will report to Special Assistant Dave Donahue in the President's office.

Liebowitz said that Spears had delayed the planned leave of absence several times

already.

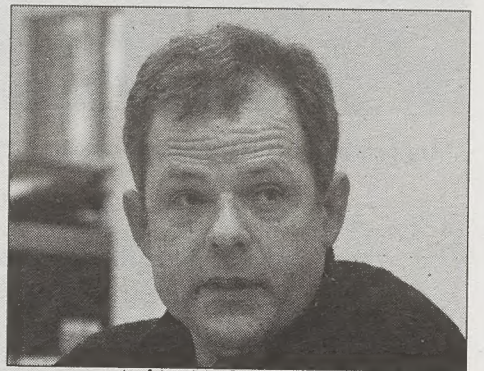
"Tim postponed his leave — originally scheduled for last year — to serve as Acting Provost," he wrote. "[He] then remained in the administration this fall in order to follow through on several initiatives, including the staffing analysis undertaken by the Staff Resources Committee."

During his leave of absence, Spears will work on a book project devoted to the development of college football. He will explore the subject through his own family's history. His grandfather was an all-American at Dartmouth College and later had a Hall-of-Fame coaching career. His father was captain of the Yale University football team. Spears played for Yale in the 1970s.

Spears believes his work will show the development of football as a fixture on college campuses.

Administrators divide Spears' duties during his leave

"I look at each of our experiences in turn, to show how the relationship between football and higher education evolved over the course of the 20th century and to explain how the sport was passed from father to son as an essential part of our growing up," he said.



Archive / Andrew Ngewo, Photos Editor

Middbrief

Ice Ban responsible for mysterious black streaks

by Jackie Yordan, Staff Writer

The mysterious black fluid that appears on the sidewalks before forecasted storms is the College's new experiment in snow removal, a product called Ice Ban.

"Ice Ban is sprayed on the roads and sidewalks before a storm, and prevents the snow from forming a bond with the surface it is applied to, making snow removal much quicker, easier, and with better results," said Assistant Director of Facilities Services Luther Tenny. "Being able to get rid of all the snow from the sidewalk means that a hard-packed snow surface does not form, letting the sidewalks and roads return to bare ground after a storm."

Although many people assume that the product is made of tar because of Ice Ban's dark color and oily consistency, the product is actually a sugar.

"It's primarily composed of magnesium chloride and Brewer's Condensed Solids, which is a by-product from alcohol manufacturing, specifically beer," said Tenny. "It is this product that gives the Ice Ban its very dark color and almost oily texture, even though it is a sugar, not an oil."

"It looked really ugly, especially on a fresh sheet of snow," said Anoushka Sinha '13. "But most environmentally-friendly things involve

dirt, so I'm guessing it is environmentally-friendly."

Being mostly a waste food product, Ice Ban is indeed environmentally-friendly. The entire state of Vermont is experimenting with Ice Ban as a pretreatment, as well as spraying it directly on the salt applied to roads, to reduce the amount of salt needed.

By preempting snow, Facilities Services hopes to reduce the labor necessary to remove snow. "A further benefit is the reduction of labor and fuel use in trying to remove the hard pack of snow from sidewalks after a storm," said Tenny. "And, naturally, bare sidewalks and roads are safer for pedestrians and cars."

The application of Ice Ban is a fairly new practice for the College. Facilities Services has only been using it for a couple of years, and therefore are still perfecting the timing, amount and spray patterns for use. Tenny outlined the trickiness of the application process.

The ideal conditions for application, according to Tenny, are a "fairly narrow window," so the College does not use it for every storm.

"Misapplication can result in some tracking into buildings, and somewhat slippery surfaces outside."



File Photo / Andrew Ngeow, Photos Editor
Ice Ban, designed to prevent snow accumulation, left black streaks on the sidewalks.

Video premieres after lengthy production

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

really bothers me."

"I thought the song was really witty, but I was turned off by the music video," said Sarah Simonds '11. "It was a bunch of drunk, slobbering people partying. This is supposed to be a positive image of Middlebury?"

Some members of groups directly targeted by the video have found its interpretation of their behaviors and attitudes somewhat vexing. Jack Balaban '12, a member of the varsity lacrosse team, described the video's portrayal of lacrosse players as a "sensitive subject" among team members.

"Obviously, we think of ourselves as more dynamic members of the Middlebury community than a bunch of bros in visors throwing up on girls," Balaban said. "I think that if people are being honest with themselves, they would agree with that. The video simply perpetuates a stereotype. It's easy to make fun of this particular stereotype, just like any other stereotype ... But it can become tiresome, and I think that it is interesting to note that were any number of other stereotypes on campus made fun of in that fashion, people would be outraged."

"I respect the hard work needed to make such a video," said captain of the lacrosse team Pete Smith '10. "I think some groups targeted in the song are misrepresented which is unfortunate, but I also understand ... that the song is a joke, so I'll just take it as that."

Other students were impressed by the video's professional quality.

"I was really proud of the 'Midd Kid' rap," said Charles Giardina '12. "They did a really good job, and the production value of the video was great."

Renee Igo '11, a cabin and trail coordinator for the Middlebury Mountain Club and a self-described "authoritative granola voice," referring to the video's jab at outdoorsy students, said she found the video "funny."

"I don't take the rap seriously as a representation of Middlebury or me as a Middlebury student," she said. "I don't think this rap is going to change people's perception of Midd."

The video was funded in part by Atwater, Brainerd, Cook and Ross Commons; the Allen Jokers provided the remaining half. Becker rejected funds from Wonnacott Commons because the money came with, as he put it, "fairly ridiculous" requirements; for example, the Wonnacott mascot must be featured in the video.

Becker contacted Nalgene in order to obtain clearance to use the corporation's products in the video; Nalgene granted clearance immediately and even donated products. Becker is currently in discussions with the company over a possible 30-second Internet advertisement, made with clips from the "Midd Kid" video.

The producers never contacted Odwalla,

Inc., whose product features prominently in the video, about corporate clearance. The scene was a late addition, Becker explained, and he did not have time to contact the company.

"So we risked some, and took more practical approaches with others," he said. "The whole idea is to limit them [corporate logos]."

The video was filmed over the course of three days, during which Mandes and others in the production team "didn't sleep for two of the nights," as he reported. Production schedule included 12-hour days for some; shooting began at 6 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 25, in McCullough Social Space, with approximately 60 extras in attendance.

The College never granted official permission for the filming to take place. Mandes had to register for approval as an extracurricular independent project in order to obtain what film space the team was able to procure and to rent equipment from the FMMC department. Administration officials declined to comment for this story.

"Every single second was an adrenaline rush," he said. "We got to meet tons of people, and work with great people, and at the end of it, it was just the most rewarding experience."

The team behind the video seemed to anticipate the range of reactions their final product would receive.

"You get different reactions from every single group," said Mandes. "I've heard absolutely everything ... I think it's great that it pushes the envelope that much and it's that prominent that we can provoke different responses. We accept all criticism, and we embrace it, and we encourage you to lash out if you don't like it, and encourage you to back it up if you like it. We appreciate all the opinions."

Alumni have also actively praised the video, both personally to its creators and in online comment boards on YouTube.



In this still from the video, Phil Gordon '11 lays down the rap about Quidditch players.

"I talked to a bunch of recent alumni who, when they heard the song, were reminiscing about Middlebury and how much they missed it," said Becker. "I think adding a video to that song makes the memories that much more concrete."

About 500 people, including three members of the Board of Trustees, attended the Saturday night premiere. The line extended from the screening room out the front door of the Axinn Center, and the video had to be shown seven times in order to accommodate the crowds.

"What I heard is that the trustees really liked it, which is good news, because we shot it without the College really supporting it," said Becker. "So it's good to have the trustees on our side. That's great news."

The video's creators repeatedly emphasized their essentially comic intentions.

"I know there are going to be people that don't like it because it's sexist, but it's a rap video, come on, it's supposed to be like that," said Robinson. "It's a parody on rap videos, and that's why it's funny. You've got to lighten up ... It didn't need to represent Middlebury accurately, and I think it's good that it doesn't. The video wouldn't be as funny."

"It has to be taken with a grain of salt," said Limperis. "It's a big exaggeration, but in order for it to be funny it has to be like that."

"Obviously there's more to Middlebury than what's represented in the video, and obviously there's lots of admirable and passionate and amazing people here, but they don't make for a very funny rap song," said Charlie Taft '11, one of the video's assistant producers, who launched the Allen Jokers' Web site. "That was the intention — to have fun and make people laugh ... I think when you say it doesn't represent Middlebury, well obviously that's true, but it's also an unfair criticism because that was never the goal."

college shorts

By Leah Pickett, Staff Writer

Professor arrested for murder of colleagues

Details continue to surface in the case of the recent shootings of biology professors at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Authorities arrested Biology professor Amy Bishop after her shooting spree at a biology department meeting on Feb. 12 left three faculty members dead and three more in critical condition.

Bishop's motive for the shooting was likely because the university had recently turned down her appeal for tenure. Acquaintances say Bishop told them that she blamed specific faculty members for blocking the tenure that she believed she deserved. Bishop was an accomplished Harvard-educated biologist, and gained prominence for having invented an innovative portable cell growth incubator with her husband.

But authorities have recently uncovered another side of Bishop's history — she shot her 18-year-old brother in 1986, but was never charged because she claimed that it had been an accident. The murders have left students and faculty alike in a state of shock and sent the close-knit science community of Huntsville reeling.

— The New York Times

Boulder tops Sierra Club list for "Cool Schools"

The University of Colorado at Boulder topped the Sierra Club's third annual list of "Cool Schools," which ranks universities according to their degree of "eco-enlightenment." College admissions experts say that rankings like these are becoming ever more important as students increasingly evaluate schools based not only on academics, location, and social life, but also on their degree of social and environmental consciousness.

"Ten years ago, I don't remember any students asking me about green campuses," said Steven Roy Goodman, a college admissions strategist. "Now, it's quite common for students to be keenly interested in how environmentally responsible colleges are."

Middlebury tied with the University of Washington in Seattle for the number-two slot on the list, scoring 98 points to The University of Colorado at Boulder's 100.

— www.sierraclub.org

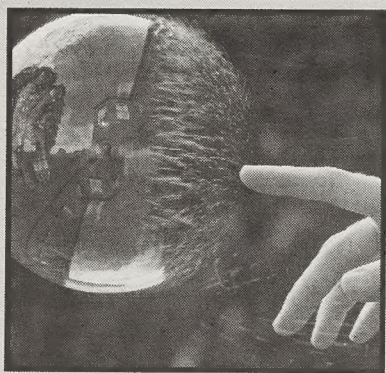
Ohio schools integrate digital technology

The Five Colleges of Ohio consortium — which consists of Denison University, Kenyon College, Oberlin College, Ohio Wesleyan University and the College of Wooster — has received a two-year, \$600,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in order to integrate digital technology into their libraries and curriculum.

"The grant will provide free and open access to digital documents that were once only available on our individual campuses, sometimes to a very limited number of people," said Mark Christel, project director and director of libraries at the College of Wooster.

In addition, the grant will help faculty integrate digital collections into their courses by working with librarians, create professional development in library technology for library staff, and help develop a portal through which students and faculty can access digital collections.

— collegenews.org



beyond the bubble

by Bronwyn Oatley, Staff Writer

On Feb. 12 at Vancouver's BC Place, over 2,600 athletes from 82 National Olympic Committees marched into the stadium to open the 21st Winter Olympics Games. To the delight of the 60,000 in attendance, and an estimated 1 billion watching live on television internationally, the ceremonies featured prominent Canadian musicians, dancers and spectacular special effects.

Unfortunately, however, the celebration was marred by the tragic death of 21-year-old Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili. The Georgian perished in an accident following a training run earlier that morning, before the Olympic torch had even been lit.

In a press conference following the accident, International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge made the following statement: "Our first thoughts are with the family, friends and colleagues of the athlete. The whole Olympic family is struck by this tragedy, which clearly casts a shadow over these Games." The Georgian athletes wore black armbands in memory of their fallen countrymen, and the flags around the Olympic stadium were lowered to half-mast in respect.

The opening ceremony also featured an embarrassing hydraulic malfunction. The fourth massive pole that was supposed to allow the Olympic flame to travel to the main cauldron failed to rise.

International news media have been quick to jump on this story and other glitches during the first few days in Vancouver. Public relations and weather problems have all contributed to supplying journalists with endless material for headlines in the opening week.

One of the most embarrassing situations for organizers to contend with has been the delayed removal of a chain link fence surrounding the outdoor Olympic cauldron. Because of the placement of the fence, spectators were forced to take pictures of themselves in front of the torch with a very unscenic backdrop.

The Vancouver Organizing Committee has also had difficulty with the ice resurfacing equipment. In an effort to be environmentally friendly, VANOC purchased electric resurfacing machines instead of the standard propane-powered vehicles. These machines have proven to be unpredictable, however, causing delays in the speed skating events and leaving ice uneven.

British journalist Lawrence Donegan may have been the first of the disillusioned reporters, quickly concluding that these Olympics might be "the worst ever."

Most agree, however, that this is nothing more than hyperbole. Though there have been difficulties, most agree that the organizing committee responded quickly and reasonably to the problems within their control. They have taken down a portion of the chain link fence, while simultaneously building a platform for picture-hungry fans, and have replaced the ice resurfacing machines in a timely fashion.

While this has certainly been a testing opening week for the organizers, the mood seems to be more positive moving into week two. Many of the technical glitches have been resolved and public relations personnel hope that they have dealt with the worst of the criticism. With less than one week before the torch is extinguished, Olympic fans around the world hope that the performance of the athletes will cast the final impression on these games.

Lack of information on Allen faulted

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in the Chateau.

"Many people went to Chateau, some to the Coffrin lounge, and some to the rooms of friends where they slept on the floor or a futon," Alec Cooper '13 said. "Some of us actually didn't go back to sleep."

Boudah said the extent of the damage forced Public Safety officers to call Facilities Services, preventing the dorm from opening sooner.

"The alarm system would not reset and smoke detectors needed to be cleaned or replaced," she said. The chemical that was discharged needed to be cleaned so students could return safely to the building."

Director of Facilities Services Norm Cushman said his department received a request for assistance at 2:30 a.m. and made extensive repairs.

"Fire alarm components were replaced and the main panel was reset," he said. "Cleanup activities then followed."

While the incident disrupted the evenings of Allen residents, Graves said most took the trouble in stride.

"I was incredibly impressed with their response," she said. "They were definitely bothered, but they took things in stride and coop-

erated when necessary. We sort of made the most out of the situation and turned it into a bonding experience and big joke."

Though students retained their composure through the incident, some were dissatisfied with the College's response.

"I would have thought that the college would have a plan for housing students in the event that a dorm needed to be evacuated," Goodwin said. "Even more offensive was the fact that I never got an honest answer to when we would be allowed to re-enter Allen. I am told that the cleanup crew did not even arrive until about 6 a.m., so I am appalled that I was told at 2, 3 and 4 a.m. that the dorm would be closed for at least an hour."

First-year Counselor Catherine Lidstone '10 also believes the response could have been quicker, especially given the weather conditions.

"Why the custodians couldn't be working on cleaning while the technician was fixing the issue is beyond me," she said. "It was a poor use of time, especially on a winter night in Middlebury for a freshman dorm, who don't have as many resources as upperclassmen do when it comes to finding other places to crash for the night."

Earlier this year, a fire alarm in Ross Dining Hall forced the evacuation of the complex,

in a similar incident. Graves expressed her desire for a more standard protocol to deal with emergencies in the future.

"It's tough, because no one expects for a harmless fire alarm situation to displace more than 100 students for almost seven hours in the middle of the night, but I wouldn't mind seeing some sort of protocol put in place in response," she said. "It would have been great if our students had had somewhere to go. I absolutely understand that people did the most that they could under these circumstances, and we appreciated the help we did get, but clearly, a quicker response would have been best."

Several students slept through the alarm and did not evacuate the building, Goodwin, Lidstone and Graves confirmed. Public Safety did not find those students when they swept the building, as is the standard practice.

"I did hear about one student sleeping through it the next day, and another one slept through the first 15 minutes of it," Graves said. "That's impressive, and also a little frightening."

Boudah said that Public Safety officers continue to investigate the incident.

"At this time we do not know who was responsible for the discharge," she said. "Anyone with information about what occurred or who was responsible should contact Public Safety."

Trustees meet with students and faculty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ger be competitive in attracting and maintaining the best possible faculty," Burnham said.

The Faculty Council also expressed concerns about the growing amount of busy work at a time when salaries are frozen, according to Burnham.

"By busy work, I mean tasks such as acting as crowd managers, conducting degree audits, doing committee work that could be done more efficiently, etc.," Burnham explained. "It's not about advising senior work or the course load."

While the Faculty Council did not make specific proposals, it brought its concerns to the table for discussion. The Council expressed their opinions to the Trustees present at the discussion, who relayed the comments back to the entire board.

"These issues have been brought to attention by many faculty members," Burnham said. "The best possible faculty needs to be able to continue to pursue research and writing agendas while also providing students with the excellent teaching and faculty-student interaction that Middlebury is famous for."

Burnham said that the members of the Faculty Council were very glad that Liebowitz

recommended no layoffs for staff and the maintenance of faculty and staff benefits at their present level. They also were happy about the continued commitment to need-blind financial aid.

Other committees brought up different issues at the Trustee meetings, such as merging with the Monterey Language Schools, increasing the use of bio-methane, and the investment of the college endowment in sustainable companies.

The discussion of joining the online language venture operations together was supported at the meetings. This operation will include the expansion of the Monterey summer language programs to four sites. The goal of this expansion is to generate more revenue for the College, according to Fritz.

The trustees also voted to merge with the Monterey Institute. Fritz hopes that this merger will facilitate faculty and student exchanges between Monterey and Middlebury. The merger will take place in June 2010.

The trustees also endorsed the proposal to move forward in using bio-methane as an alternative to biomass fuel, a new step in reaching the College's 2016 carbon neutrality goal. To do this, the College is planning on building a pipeline for bio-methane with the support of grants.

The Investment Committee of the Trustees approved a portion of the College endowment to be managed into a sustainability fund. The idea to do this came about a few years ago, from a group of students who were members of the Sunday Night Group. The students formed the Socially Responsible Investing club, and requested that the College be more transparent about what is invested in Middlebury's endowment portfolios. Now that this recommendation has been approved, students will be able to evaluate whether or not certain companies the College invests in live up to Middlebury's sustainability standards, something they were able to do to a only minimally in previous years.

"We've had different ways of dealing with this in the past," Fritz explained. "Students used to review companies that investment managers could provide them with. But now they have a larger and more robust opportunity to look at companies."

Fritz believes that the trustee meetings were, overall, very successful.

"By our own records, this was one of the busiest and most productive trustee meetings in my memory," Fritz said. "It was packed into two and a half days, and it dealt with a complex and full agenda."

public safety log

February 13 - February 22, 2010

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/13/2010	8:36 p.m.	Suspicious Circumstances	—	College Street	No Suspects
2/17/2010	10:53 p.m.	Harassment	Phone	Atwater A	Open
2/18/2010	12:51 p.m.	Vandalism	Graffiti	Pearsons	No Suspects
2/18/2010	9:15 p.m.	Theft	Shoes	Athletic Complex	No Suspects
2/19/2010	11:51 p.m.	Vandalism	Property Damage	Milliken	Referred to Commons Dean
2/19/2010	11:50 p.m.	Underage Party	Beer Pong Table	Milliken	Referred to Commons Dean
2/20/2010	11:53 p.m.	Vandalism	Porch Rail	105 S. Main	Referred to DOC and commons deans
2/21/2010	12:50 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Fletcher	Referred to DOC and commons deans
2/21/2010	1:16 a.m.	Drug Violation	Disrespect of College Official	Forest East	Referred to DOC and commons deans
2/21/2010	1:47 a.m.	Fire Alarm Raised	General Extinguisher	Allen	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
2/21/2010	2:17 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Coffrin	Unable to Locate Noise
2/22/2010	1:20 a.m.	Attempted Theft	Attempt to Enter Locked Door	Coffrin	Open
2/22/2010	11:00 p.m.	Theft	Jacket	Atwater B	Open

The Department of Public Safety reported giving six alcohol citations between February 13 and February 22.

When ice was nice...

Local Historical Society remembers the days of ice harvesting

By Rebecca Fanning
Staff Writer

As the warm February sun beat down on the clear roads of Addison, Vt., the subject of ice would never have crossed one's mind. But on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 21, members of The Addison Town Historical Society gathered with community members at the Addison Community Baptist Church for slides, speakers and discussion about the bygone days of ice extraction from Vermont's major waterways.

Every chair in the room was filled and a plethora of delicious baked goods gave the afternoon a festive air. The group first watched a brief presentation of slides from Lake Champlain ice extraction in 1957.

The pictures outlined a process in which a coal-fired conveyor belt transported ice from the lake to a nearby ice storage house. The ice was used as an early refrigerator for food as well as an air conditioner on train passenger cars. By wrapping a large ice slab in canvas and stowing it under each seat, passengers enjoyed comfortably cool trips into the hot summer months.

At the conclusion of the slides, conversation turned to personal memories and anecdotes from the days before electric refrigeration. Old friends reminisced about life before modern technology and commented on the relative ease with which we live life today.

Ninety-four-year-old Dean Jackson spoke of his memories of ice cutting on Otter Creek with his family and friends from nearby farms. He explained the labor-intensive process of horse-pulled plows and the hand cutting of ice in bitter Vermont Januarys. "That was rough manual labor; any way you looked at it," said Jackson. "We didn't mind it in them days 'cause we didn't know any different."

His relief at the mechanized improvements to the process was huge. By the 1940s, the Jackson family was using a Model-T Ford engine buzz saw to cut through the frozen creek. He displayed a passionate expertise for the process. "We would snap them cakes [of ice] edgeways after we had sawed 'em crossways," said Jackson, his outstretched arms giving his audience a feel for the dimensions of the ice.

When asked how much a slab of ice weighed, Jackson gave no estimate.

"I never weighed one, but I dropped one on my foot once," he said, chuckling.

He told the group that as a child a plow horse once got a little too close to the edge and fell right through the thin ice.

"I was a kid, and just about scared to death," said Jackson.

Luckily, his father was able to save the horse and warm it up in the family's heated barn.

Mechanization truly changed the face of ice extraction. One mechanized ice plow could do the work of 50 men in the same amount of time. The ice extracted from Otter Creek was packed in sawdust and stored primarily in local icehouses, but ice from the larger areas in the Champlain Valley found its way all over the Northeast.

Mary Sleeper shared an entry from her grandfather's diary at a time when ice shortages in New York City increased demand for commercial icehouses in West Addison. Vermont's cold winters and expert ice extractors made Addison a supplier of ice for points south of Albany and throughout New York State.

As the discussion progressed, others brought up stories they had heard of dangers associated with ice extraction. Red Clark chimed in about a friend he had who once went through the ice.

"He was fiddlediddlin' around, and slid right in," said Clark. "He was fine, though quite concerned that his cigarettes got wet."

While modern technology certainly makes life easier, it takes some longer than others to come to grips with the changes. Charles Chapman spoke about his mother's ancient icebox.

"Probably the oldest one still in use," he speculated.

Machine frozen ice was delivered to her door each week by a gas-burning truck until the demand for such an out-of-date practice died off all together.

His wife, Evelyn Chapman, still remembers the first refrigerator her family got.

"I was six or seven years old, and I'll never forget how excited we were," Evelyn Chapman said. "For the first time we could keep things cold all the time."

As they sipped coffee and laughed about the old days, these Addison County locals with stories to tell found the atmosphere anything but icy.



Photos by Nicolas Sohl, Photo Editor

Lionel Fisher and his wife, Ardys Fisher, share their personal photos of ice harvesting over their old ice tools.



Meet the toymaker

Mike Rainville owns and operates the nation's only wooden toy factory, right here in Middlebury, page 6.

Flatbread and local brews

Burst the bubble and head up to Shelburne to the new Flatbread Factory and Taproom, page 7.



1800

1805

Boston merchant Frederick Tudor ships ice to the West Indies, creating the first commercial ice industry.

1820

Queen Victoria purchases ice from New England for her personal use. The ice industry continues to expand.

1840

The Tudor Company expands its business. The Company begins to store ice in specially designed houses and distributes ice on special ice trains.

1858

1860

Louisiana Ice Manufacturing Company opens first artificial ice manufacturing plant.

1868

1880

1900

The "Domestic Electric Refrigerator" is marketed in Chicago in 1913.

1913

More than 200 different refrigerator models are on the market.

1920

1940

Home ice delivery declines and over 80% of families have modern refrigerators.

1960

Wooden Ski Classic draws skiers in retro attire

By Samantha Hernandez

STAFF WRITER

On a cloudy Saturday morning the snow-covered dirt path just off Route 125 opened up to an odd scene: a small group of people of all ages dressed to the nines in antique ski wear and equipment. They were all ready to race in the Wooden Ski Classic at the Blueberry Hill Inn. This just-for-fun race encouraged skiing enthusiasts to break out their best vintage gear and come out to cross-country ski in a celebration of Vermont's rich skiing history.

The rules were simple: the contestants needed wooden skis and vintage clothes, points were deducted for any equipment or clothing made after the mid-1970s and anyone could participate, as long as they had the right gear.

Around noon the contestants lined up at the start and at the signal they were off. They sped around the track just twice. As the last stragglers made their way across the finish line, the contestants jokingly argued about who had the most points deducted, whose clothes were more modern or skis more vintage.

"Well, of course, nobody won," said Tony Clark, Goshen resident and Blueberry Hill innkeeper for the past three decades.

Clark arguably had the most varied and vintage gear for the race. One of the clogs attached to his antique skis came undone during the race, but he still made his way around the rest of the track on one ski. He showed off his vintage gear: a bamboo and leather pole, Swedish skis and a Norwegian sweater. He explained how people used to ski with only one pole, and he wanted to go for authenticity.

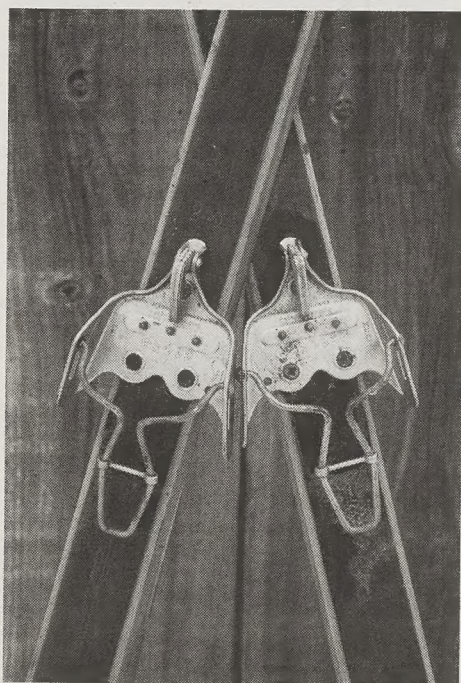
Another contestant, Warren Foster, joined in to explain his attire, which happened to be lederhosen — somewhat appropriate for that unusually balmy February afternoon. Clark explained that this is not the usual equipment they would use, as much of it was falling apart mid-race. But the unreliability of the equipment only adds to the excitement, explained Foster.

"You never know what's going to happen," said Foster.

Other contestants had different reasons for participating.

"He made me," said 13-year-old Allison Hatch, jokingly pointing at her father, who also raced. By all accounts this race was not one based on competition, but was instead a good excuse to get people together for outdoor fun.

After the race, everyone retreated to the lodge for steaming bowls of vegetable soup. Clark chatted over chocolate chip cookies about the College and its relationship to the town, and he encouraged more students to come up to the inn as a retreat from the rigors of school life. He mentioned that the Ski Classic is not the only form of wacky winter fun at the inn — Blueberry Hill Ski Center offers events like the Classic every weekend, keeping the long winter lively in true Vermont fashion.



Nicolas Sohl, Photo Editor



Sarah Harris

Top: Warren Foster, on left, speeds past a competitor in his vintage lederhosen.

Bottom: Foster, still in lederhosen on the right, punctuates a point to Tony Clark, far right, with his ski pole. Allison Hatch and her father, far left, also participated in the race.

The Localvore: The Flatbread Factory & Taproom

By Robert Norberg

STAFF WRITER

Usually if I'm in the mood for a bite and a drink I'll grab a Sicilian slice from Ramunto's and bring home a few casuals from the always reliable Middlebury Discount Beverage just next door. With the world's best food/beverage combination within the convenient vicinity of campus, I initially thought that a 40-minute drive north for pizza and beer was a little much. What reason do I have for putting on a clean shirt and filling my gas tank when I can stay in my sweats and be back on my couch with a slice and some suds in 10 minutes?

Shelburne's new Flatbread Factory and Taproom may just be that reason.

As we all know, there comes a time when we all need to get out, to free ourselves from Middlebury's tired pizza circuit. We've all reached that point when Neil and Otto's or Ross meatlover's pizza just doesn't cut it anymore. The Flatbread Factory's closest competition is located right here in Middlebury, but even American Flatbread loses its appeal and we all turn to greener pastures.

Heeding that siren song, I set out for Shelburne. I took the opportunity of this review to meet up with some hometown friends who go to school in Burlington. Located just minutes from downtown Burlington, the Flatbread Factory is just as much of a reason to get some friends together and head to Vermont's greatest city as would be going to your favorite Church Street restaurant or "tobacco" shop.

The Flatbread Factory, which opened just a week ago, is located on Route 7 north, about 45 minutes from campus. Brian Sharfman, who co-owns the Flatbread Factory with his wife Lauren, boasts of his restaurant's easy access and ample parking, which he prefers to any busy, hectic stop in Burlington.

"We're like more of your neighborhood pub for local families," Sharfman said. "There are a lot of nicer, white-tablecloth restaurants in the Burlington area — we're going for fun and accessible."

Already, the Flatbread Factory has proven to be a go-to destination, as Sharfman had to make some last-minute hires just to hold over the sizeable tide of first-weekend customers.

Entering the restaurant, its immediate appeal could not be more evident. The Flatbread Factory feels somewhat like an old-time cigar lounge with its dark decor, plaid carpet and

There are a lot of nicer, white-tablecloth restaurants in the Burlington area — we're going for fun and accessible.

—Brian Sharfman

vintage advertisements on the walls. The kitchen opens into the dining room and you can see your meals being prepared, lending the ambience of something between a small-time pizza joint and your standard sit-down dining experience.

If you're looking to stay a while, you can enjoy a game — a few thrilling Olympic ice dancing performances in my case — on one of their three flat-screen televisions, one of which is 10 feet long and surrounded by overstuffed chairs and a cozy leather couch. If you happen to be bringing your kids, there is a children's play room set off from the dining area, complete with its own television and impressive selection of Dora the Explorer and Spongebob DVDs.

As with any restaurant though, atmosphere can only go so far and the food must speak for itself. The Flatbread Factory's menu will have no trouble impressing in this department. In addition to having a solid wine list and around 10 beers on tap — mainly Magic Hat, located just across Route 7, and McNeil's, a Brattleboro-based gem — you can choose from an array of gourmet appetizers and flatbread pizzas.

We went with the Mango Tango nachos to start with and a buffalo chicken pizza for the main course. Absorbed by the television, the pints and the conversation, we nearly forgot we had ordered food. That is, until we were presented with the biggest tray of nachos I've seen north of the Mason-Dixon. Freshly made with mounds of gooey cheese, chicken and mango salsa, the Mango Tango nacho dish was actually bigger than the pizza and a meal in itself. Stuffed as we were, we still couldn't resist the buffalo chicken pizza, which was topped with just the right amount of hot sauce and crumbled bleu cheese. As we digested and downed a few after-dinner Switchbacks, we were entertained by Olympic feats, reggae and Mr. Sharfman's vision for Shelburne's newest hot spot.

So if you're like me, and you sense the faint rumblings of wanderlust and you just need to get out of Middlebury for a while, try the Flatbread Factory. Sit down with some friends, enjoy some local brews and chicken nachos and watch the Olympian Johnny Weir dominate in all his elegant, fox fur-fueled skating glory. The food alone is worth the trip and will surely leave you satisfied should you decide to finally venture all the way to that downtown tobacco shop.



one in 8,700

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Emma Loizeaux

STAFF WRITER

Mike Rainville, founder and owner of Maple Landmark Woodcraft, cannot remember a time when woodworking was not a part of his life.

"When I was very young, both my grandfathers did carpentry work," said Rainville. "There were wood scraps and sawdust and saws and tools and things around and I just kind of slowly picked up on that kind of stuff."

By the time Rainville was in middle school, he was selling his own handiwork at flea markets near his home in Lincoln, Vt., and at his parents' general store. When he was just 15, Rainville caught the attention of a traveling salesman in the area, who sold the crafts elsewhere along his route. Finally, after college, Rainville built a bigger shop and was able to get into the woodworking business full-time.

Presiding over Maple Landmark Woodcraft's factory is very much what Rainville always wished for.

"I'm a manufacturer," said Rainville. "I want to make volumes of things; I want to make batches of things. I remember I used to

make a dozen cribbage boards and dream of the opportunity to make a gross of them."

Maple Landmark Woodcraft specializes in wooden toys, including building blocks, game boards and the best-selling NameTrains. When the company got started in the '70s, the wooden toy market was thriving, but since then it has declined with the rise of the digital age. These days, kids play more with electronics, and most other wooden toy companies have been bought out or overwhelmed by competition with foreign importers, according to Rainville.

How is Maple Landmark Woodcraft staying afloat?

"We just work harder than anyone else."

Rainville and his crew, which includes several family members and three generations of Rainvilles, are committed to the company and its products.

"Every kid has or should have some building blocks," said Rainville.

But that commitment comes with a price. Rainville admitted he regularly stays at the factory until 9:30 p.m.

"It's what we love to do," he explained. "We're not looking to retire at 50."

Even though the market is changing, there is still some interest in wooden toys. In 2007, Rainville remembers, the company enjoyed a significant sales spike when questions arose over the safety of products imported from China and people began to consider the quality of the toys they purchased.

Maple Landmark Woodcraft's products are exclusively American-made, a feature that makes them more appealing both to customers suspicious of the quality of imported toys and those concerned about the economic liabilities of outsourcing. The company displays its "Made in Vermont" seal with pride, said Rainville.

Maple Landmark Woodcraft's toys have garnered a host of awards, including *Creative Child Magazine's* 2009 Toy of the Year and a spot on Dr. Toy's 2009 Best Green Products list. These recognitions help draw buyers looking for better quality toys, Rainville noted.

As long as there is even the slightest demand for wooden toys, Rainville and his cohorts at Maple Landmark Woodcraft will continue to churn out ABC blocks and puzzle-piece train tracks.

As for the future: "I've been saying for the last 10 years I just want to survive," said Rainville. "That's work enough."



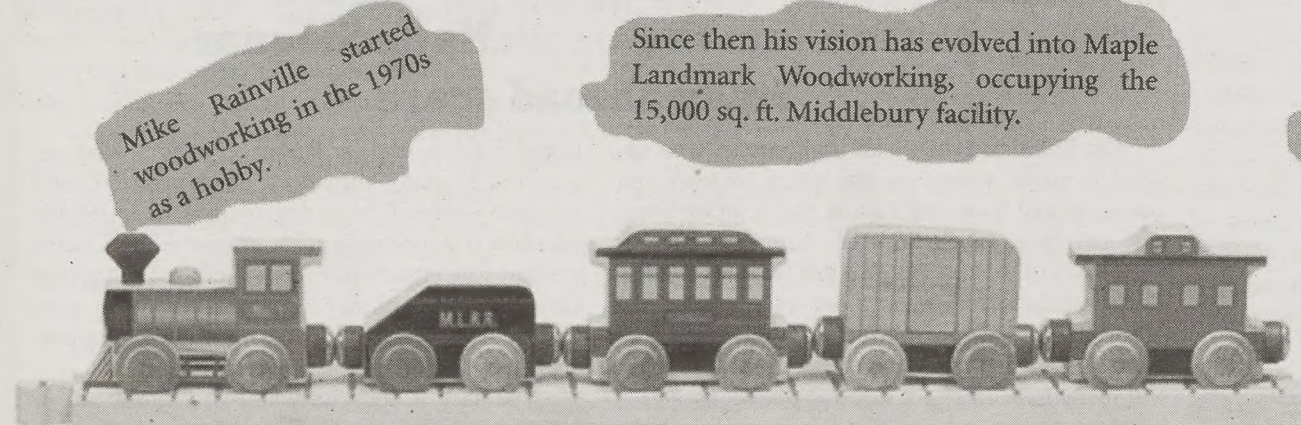
Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor.

Mike Rainville, founder of Maple Landmark Woodcraft, shows off his handiwork.

Mike Rainville started woodworking in the 1970s as a hobby.

Since then his vision has evolved into Maple Landmark Woodworking, occupying the 15,000 sq. ft. Middlebury facility.

We sat down with Mike and his wife Barbara to discuss the company's commitment to locally-crafted toys and the best in hands on learning and exploration.



Local Wanders



by Timothy O'Grady

Walking into Maple Landmark Woodcraft is like taking a nostalgic trip back in time before electronics and plastic toys filled up children's playpens. Colorful, hand-crafted wooden trains, building blocks, swords and trucks line the shelves of the factory store and the pungent smell of sawdust permeates the air. Although visitors can purchase any of the company's full line of products, I would recommend taking a factory tour to get a behind-the-scenes look at the nation's only extant wooden toy factory.

Owner Mike Rainville's interest in woodworking started in his teens when he would make items out of wood scraps in his grandfather's basement. After graduating from Clarkson University in 1984, Rainville started up his own full-time business, Maple Landmark Woodcraft, in Lincoln, Vt. The business' name, "Maple Landmark," appropriately came from his parents' maple sugaring business and dairy farm — Maple Landmark Homestead. In 1996 the business moved its factory to Middlebury, and in 2001 Maple Landmark consolidated operations with Montgomery Schoolhouse, another successful Vermont-based wooden toy business.

The business is very much family-operated. Mike Rainville's wife and co-owner Jill, sister Barbara, mother Pat and grandmother Harriet all work for Maple Landmark Woodcraft to this day.

"I think one of the reasons our business is successful is because people like our story," said Barbara Rainville as she led me through a factory tour.

The production area consisted of several sectionalized rooms which each served a specific step in the manufacturing process. The raw planks of wood (either maple or pine) must first be shaped and cut into specific forms by several machines including the molder which cuts all four surfaces of the wood at once. While I was visiting, large planks of maple wood were being shaped into thinner strips which would ultimately become dominoes.

One of the more interesting steps of production was the finishing process. All of the dyes and polyurethane finishes used at Maple

on wheels. Children spell their names with the letters and stick them together with the other magnetized parts to make a train which can ride on a wooden track.

Due to the immense popularity of this product, the factory invested in a one-of-a-kind machine which adds the magnets to the NameTrain letter cars. This machine — logically named the Magnet Machine — cut back the amount of workers required to complete this one step and increased output productivity exponentially. The Rainvilles have to be very innovative when it comes to finding new ways to increase production efficiency because there are not any other comparable factories where they can seek advice.

"Since we're the only wooden toy factory in the country we have to solve our own problems," said Barbara Rainville.

The toy factory tries to operate in an environmentally-friendly manner and deals primarily with local retailers. The raw maple and pine lumber is purchased at Lathrop's Maple Supply, a sustainably harvested wood supplier in Bristol, Vt. Unused wood is never wasted at Landmark Maple. Scrap pieces are put in a bin in front of the factory for anyone to take or entire bins of scraps can be purchased for \$10. Wood shavings are filtered through a factory-wide ventilation system which is connected to a silo where the shavings are collected for a local farmer to use as bedding for his calves.

As the only existing wooden toy factory in the United States, Maple Landmark Woodcraft has been able to survive in an industry dominated by new technology and foreign competition. Despite the numerous toy hazard recalls in recent years, the Rainvilles have provided safe, hand-crafted toys for the past 26 years.

"I believe people just have a desire to buy natural, American-made toys," said Barbara Rainville as she concluded the factory tour and led me back to the storefront, where I was once again enchanted by the colorful toys of a bygone era.

Maple Landmark Woodcraft
1297 Exchange Street in Middlebury
www.maplelandmark.com
(802) 388-0627

Tours of the production area are offered at \$10 per group 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on weekdays and can be scheduled over the phone.

Landmark meet federal regulatory standards and come from C.E. Bradley Laboratories in Brattleboro, Vt.

A recent, nationwide demand for safer products that do not contain any dyes jump-started the Schoolhouse Naturals line of wooden toys which was launched in 2008. Schoolhouse Naturals are either unfinished completely (like rattles and teethers for infants) or coated with Naturoil — an FDA-approved, plant based finish which gives products a rich amber appearance.

Maple Landmark's most popular product, NameTrains, makes up about 50 percent of total business and has been produced for the last 12 years. NameTrains are composed of several magnetized parts — the caboose, engine, and individual colorful wooden letters that are all

local lowdown

Haiti benefit dance

Feb. 26, 8 - 9 p.m.

Support Haiti relief efforts by heading down to the Town Hall Theatre on Friday night. Dance to Atlantic Crossing and other bands to raise money for Haiti's water access and medical supplies. Tickets are \$16. Info and tickets at (802) 383-9222.

Chili Contest

Feb. 27, 2-3 p.m.

In coordination with the Winter Carnival weekend at the College, the Better Middlebury Partnership is hosting its second annual chili contest this Saturday afternoon. Come to Main Street to participate in free ice skating, snowshoe races, dogsled demos and taste several different kinds of chili in the professional/amateur chili contest. After tasting all the chilis, vote for your favorites! For more information on Saturday's festivities, visit <http://www.bettermiddleburypartnership.org>.

Full Moon Workout

Feb 28, 7 - 8 p.m.

Join Fitness trainer Nick Lynch on the night of the full moon for an adventurous night hike on the Trail Around Middlebury. All funds benefit the Middlebury Area Land Trust. Tickets are \$6. For more information contact info@imsuperb.com or (802) 377-5808.

Stephen Kiernan

Mar. 4, 7 - 8 p.m.

Come appreciate the musical stylings of singer-songwriter Stephen Kiernan as he kicks off the Eastview Cabaret Series in the Town Hall Theatre. Tickets are \$10. For more information call (802) 382-9222.

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The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

A tradition to reemerge

This weekend marks the 87th annual Middlebury Winter Carnival, and, following the trend of the past few years, the weekend promises to be full of exciting opportunities — including ski races, a comedian, ice sculpting, '80s music, a top-flight DJ and more. In addition to the tremendous efforts of the College, the town of Middlebury has become even more involved, contributing the immensely popular Chili Cook-Off on Saturday afternoon, and a Mardi Gras dance in the Town Hall Theatre on Saturday night. Without question, MCAB, the Winter Carnival Committee and the town have done an outstanding job of supplying the infrastructure necessary to make this Winter Carnival one of the best in recent memory.

Despite this undertaking, however, the Winter Carnival of today is a far cry from what it was in its heyday, when students and recent graduates from all over New England would travel to our idyllic campus for a weekend of sporting events, dancing and general recreation. A quick glance through the archives of *The Campus* highlights the palpable excitement that seemed to descend upon the region every year as Carnival weekend approached — a sentiment embraced by both the students and the administration and one that helped turn Winter Carnival into the strongest of Middlebury's traditions.

While certain institutional changes, such as the raising of the drinking age, contributed to a decline in Winter Carnival's popularity, students who bemoan the current state of Winter Carnival should look no further than themselves for blame. During the '70s, each frat and organization on campus would host a party and students, regardless of athletic, academic or extracurricular affiliation, would throw themselves into the weekend with unbridled enthusiasm. What is missing from Winter Carnival is not institutional — it is this grass-roots excitement that made Carnival weekend the most sought-after ticket in the Northeast.

This year promises an incredible Carnival. With the events taking place in town and on campus, this weekend has the potential to live up to the tradition that we all hope can reemerge — but the onus is on us, the student body, to restore it.

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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Ever seen a RIDDIM show and thought that you could come up with a better theme idea? Well, this is your chance. *The Campus* is soliciting theme ideas for the RIDDIM show for all students to vote on in next week's poll. Whoever comes up with the winning theme idea will win two tickets to the spring RIDDIM show to get a chance to see your theme in action. Thanks to *The Campus* for letting us run this poll, and thank you for submitting ideas!

Sincerely,
 Kelly Bennion '10

To the Editor:

By Nick Alexander '10's logic in his Feb. 18 op-ed ("A reality check for the Office of Health and Wellness"), because my most vivid memory of freshman year does not entail vomiting on a Public Safety officer or drunkenly urinating on the walls of Stewart Hall, I do not have a social life. If Nick's analysis of "the basic facts of human social interaction" is to be believed, however, an outcast status might be for the best. I remain unconvinced that it is the current legal drinking age that forces "pre-gaming" students "to consume as much as they can, as fast as they can, out of the public eye and in the shadows of their dormitories." Such actions are fueled instead by free will, individual irresponsibility and the encouragement of a vocal contingent of students who equate alcohol consumption with sociability, without regard for the actual diversity of social experiences available at Middlebury. Thus, the Office of Health & Wellness Education should not heed the "reality check" last week's op-ed seeks to deliver, but instead continue to sponsor speakers and events that challenge a campus culture Nick wrongly portrays as intractable.

Sincerely,
 Kelly Janis '10

Notes From the Desk: Katie Siegner

Study abroad scare

On Monday, Feb. 15, all sophomores who applied to study abroad in the spring of next year got an e-mail from Jeff Cason, the dean of International Programs, with the unsettling subject line "IMPORTANT STUDY ABROAD REQUEST." This e-mail was followed up two days later by one of similar gravity — the gist of both being that there are too many spring applicants and they will likely have to reject some applications. Reading through the first e-mail, I became increasingly worried about my prospects for studying abroad in Valparaíso next spring, and my fear was not ameliorated by Cason's hope that enough people would volunteer to switch semesters that it would fix the imbalance. (Sure enough, the second e-mail acknowledged that very few students had stepped up.)

This imbalance, which apparently consists of roughly 50 students, is unique to this year's applicant pool, as in the past, the study abroad office's policy of "crossing their fingers and hoping for a rough balance" in the number of applicants for fall and spring semesters seems to have worked. While it's not anyone's fault that the policy failed this year, and housing concerns are certainly legitimate, it is upsetting that student choice is now being taken out of the equation, and the issue raises questions about the efficacy of the system.

As the e-mail from Cason caused widespread anxiety among sophomores, it would have been helpful if Cason's office had provided more substantive information regarding the manner in which applications were going to be evaluated for rejection or acceptance. Questions such as which applications will receive preference (will Interna-

tional Studies and/or language majors who are required to study abroad be given priority?) and whether there will be an opportunity to appeal the decision if your application is rejected are viable student concerns. While there is not much that the Office of International Programs can do to solve the problem, they could have been more transparent in explaining their course of action.

The fact is that students who chose fall or spring to study abroad did so for a reason, one that they undoubtedly feel is legitimate, as evinced by the very small number of students who agreed to switch semesters. The decision of when to study abroad is one that I feel is well within the students' domain, and this encroachment on our freedom of action seems arbitrary and restrictive given that many students have already made plans for fall semester. Furthermore, I feel that there is something to be said for non-academic reasons that students may have for choosing a particular semester. Other factors (summer plans, athletics, etc.) are involved in the decision, and students should have the opportunity to present their case, especially now that they face a prospect of rejection.

Today I received a decision letter accepting my application to study abroad (whew!), but what about those students who get rejected, or who haven't heard yet? The policy (or lack thereof) on the part of the Office of International Programs to ensure an equal distribution of fall and spring applicants remains an issue that needs to be addressed in future years so that students can regain a decisive say in choosing when they want to study abroad.

KATIE SIEGNER '12 IS A SPORTS EDITOR FROM CHEVY CHASE, MD.

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corrections

Last week's editorial referred to a point in President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's Feb. 12 speech regarding "additional" staff layoffs. The usage of "additional" was referring to the College's early retirement program and was not meant to suggest past layoffs. *The Campus* regrets the error.

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Op-Ed: Mackenzie Beer

The fallacy of labels

We live in a world characterized by political polarity so extreme that we can barely get people to acknowledge there is global warming, much less provide healthcare or recognize humanity in a stranger. Last week's feature piece, "Where do I belong," in an attempt to gain a few chuckles from the new "Midd Kid" rap following, reflected the same polar paralysis that I continue to cringe at beyond the snowy borders of my self-imposed Mid-bubble.

The article failed to realize that a college newspaper does not a music video make. The stereotypes in the "Midd Kid" rap (while not necessarily compelling or profound) are comedic because they have some aspect of truth to them (rather than the cheap style "Where do I belong" haplessly pirated from "Mean Girls"). The song plays to its own medium, a parody of pop-rap music and a genre that often boxes people into narrowly defined stereotypes. A newspaper (ideally) is not notable for such reductionist and gross stereotypes.

Therefore there exists no parody, just a limp joke that takes up the entire centerfold.

I look to a newspaper, and particularly the one which represents my college, my colleagues and my home, to aim for some higher understanding. The article was vaguely addressed to new Febs, instructing readers to "sort yourselves accordingly" to the "eight types of students at Middlebury."

I must confess that contrary to whatever reaction this article might have incurred if taken seriously, I do believe in the diverse experiences of college. I believe in a place where I have a slight chance to surmount the confines of my upbringing, where I have a better chance than anywhere else to shrug off the associations I've grown up with: socioeconomic class, geographic location, religion, embarrassing childhood memories and familial descent. I believe in a remote campus and concentrated assemblage intent on challenging assumptions, stimulating each other within and beyond the classroom, as well as the mutual exploration of how best to justify each waking breath. So what does it mean when one of the few regular outlets of dialogue and debate at Middlebury publishes a piece that completely negates this?

Now, I could write this one off as oversensitive, but I will not permit an external idea to

corner me into retracting my own sentiments. A close friend of mine says "struggle is struggle. It's incomparable." Well, emotion is emotion, and right now I'm running on enraged endorphins. We box people into these blanket statements and associations out of a perpetual fear that we might wake up one day and understand the implications of what it means not to belong to something. I am a Democrat so that I am not ambivalent. I am a "WRMC Mafioso" so that I'm not a friendless loser in Proctor. I am X so that I don't have to be terrified that I am nameless. Formless. Floating.

I am not advocating an abolishment of identities all together. I do believe that groups cultivate the individuals within and outside their associations, that's how we evolved as a race. But I'm absolutely against reductionist grouping. You wear pearls, therefore you are a laxtitude. There is more to me than the dining hall I eat in. There was more to that article than a "self-deprecating" feature on Midd-kids.

It's starting to resemble a terrifying indifference on a global scale to the definition of oneself exclusively by definition of the other. Rather than "I think, therefore I am," it becomes "I am not you, therefore I am." It allows people a way to refrain from active thinking, to identify accordingly, to ignore the discomfort and growth that springs from a very real anxiety that we may just not belong at all.

I'm done with the conscious boxing-in of others, finding meaning only through the disassociation of oneself from the rest of the world. We strive to belong to a minority because we are terrified of aimlessly floating in a bigger pool. Well, we no longer live within a '90s teen movie; this is not the floor of a partisan senate; we do not live on the border of Israel and Palestine. We live in a place where it is unacceptable to close oneself off from a community; we live in a place where we must force our environment to challenge us and wake us up, where we cannot submit to a society suspended in the comfort of a sedated womb, where we shuffle from X to Z desperately hoping we'll never have to open our eyes in between.

MACKENZIE BEER '12.5 IS FROM
MALIBU, CALIF.



heard on campus

Men aren't bringing dates to the Carnival; women don't have a midnight curfew.

— Dean of Cook Commons
Karl Lindholm '67

Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy

Swifter, higher, stronger

Olympic boxing in Ancient Greece was performed by naked men wearing leather gloves weighted with metal. No rules existed for punching a man on the ground, although killing one's opponent was counterproductive — if you died, you won. As athletes evolved, the competitive environment adjusted accordingly. By 1956, Soviet and Hungarian athletes were boxing in the pool for the water polo championship and by 1976, East German distance swimmers had switched to a diet of pure anabolic steroids. When the women were questioned on their suspiciously deep voices, one coach snapped: "We came here to swim, not sing."

The Allen Jokers, on the other hand, came here to sing. I knew it the day I moved to Le Chateau and heard Andrew Plumley rehearsing that sweet modulating croon, but I didn't realize their ambition was to immortalize an entire generation of Middlebury students in song and verse. In a way, they did — try, I mean, for results vary. Where the Jokers succeed, they suss out behavioral patterns we're not always aware are common, like haunting the print release station until a desirable biddy enters our seduction radius; and when they fail, they do so because they forget to strip ordinary lyrical filler and crude college stereotypes down to the particulars that make us unique.

The "Midd Kid" rap's fundamental weakness is organizational: everyone who contributed to the song is part of the same clique. While our college's tiny size allows us to relate more easily to the Jokers' commentary, the fact that they huddle together socially gives some of the product an uninformed feel, too distant and superficial to fully entertain. Take, for a perfect example, this couplet, "It's The Mill, yo, and that's what I told ya/Cause here we all G's throwin' free granola." Not only is it an awful rhyme, there are also agricultural products more readily associated with The Mill, than granola. But then the follow-up is gold: "I'm

checkin' out the honeys and I spy me a winner/ she got Carhart overalls, stained with dinner." Obviously, the Jokers spend more time ogling Mill-women at the dining hall than they do at their social house, which directly affects the quality of their lyrics. Likewise, their powers of observation are at fault in this fashion statement: "When I work I wear my Sunday best/ tight ripped jeans and corduroy vest." Overdressing is not a typical Middlebury phenomenon, unless by overdressing they mean luxury fleece.

The same problems recur on a greater scale in Midd Kid's reprise, LaxBro. When you read the typed-up lyrics on MiddBlog, it says "Key change- (Lax Bro chorus)" but really it sounds like the same song picks up after the intermission. It also sounds like an unsuccessful attempt to distinguish one group of bros from another. Light beer in Solo cups, Polo shirts, Beirut and indiscriminate sex are attributes of anything worth Public Safety's attention, so why should we give the lacrosse team credit for our drinking culture? And even if we do, the verse loses on being a virtual pastiche: while there isn't a single specific detail pertaining to our obscure but legendarily wealthy student-athletes, the Smirnoff Tea Partay is conjured up with all the shortcomings of being filmed on campus, which is a shame because the "Midd Kid" rap is brilliant by comparison. Of course, if the Jokers are using musical form to manipulate lyrical content, suggesting we're all hypocrites for making fun of each other, then hats off to them, because they're right.

Contrary to what some might assume, I'm a fan of the new anthem. It's catchy as hell and, if you ignore a few rhymes of the "back-track-smack-whack" variety, funny too. Plus, "Scientia et Virtus" just doesn't have the same ring as "I'm a Midd-kid and you're just a f---g muggle."

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

Waters to Wine: Mike Waters

The new stand on kegs

Living in Fletcher House, a hotbed of civic involvement, responsibility and general high-mindedness that — by sheer coincidence alone — is home to the Student Co-Chair of the Community Council, the SGA President and numerous members of the SGA Cabinet, I often hear of major changes on campus before they reach the general public. So when word reached me that the campus keg policy was under review, it seemed my logical duty to conduct an investigation and report back to the reading masses.

A review of keg policy, long the bane of my existence, is well overdue. The current rules allow kegs only at registered parties — which require training for party hosts, mandate complete planning earlier in the week, and come with the almost constant presence of Public Safety — making keg use on campus an unpopular alternative to purchasing alcohol in other forms. For some reason, kegs — containing the same low alcohol-by-volume swill also dispensed in packs of thirty — seem enormously dangerous to those in charge, an almost certain recipe for disaster.

However, I contend that this is not the case. For many reasons, kegs are actually the best solution to solving our campus' drinking problems. Issues with students drinking too much, too quickly or in private are generally of no consequence. Keg use results in a slower rate of consumption than canned beer, as everyone has to wait for the same source. Additionally, they bring campus drinking culture back out in the open, as it would be ridiculous to imagine kids gathered around some clandestine keg in a dorm room, drinking themselves into oblivion. And kegs also keep kids from taking alcohol with them as they move across campus, because kegs are

pretty damn heavy, as anyone can attest who has tried to sneak a keg into a sophomore, junior, or...senior...dorm (sigh).

From my perspective, kegs not only seem safe, they seem highly preferable to parties with canned beer. They encourage people to congregate and drink socially, which presents Public Safety with a few large events to keep track of, instead of worrying about kids making messes of themselves all over campus. And this is not to mention the obvious environmen-

So yes, the keg policy has been reviewed. We can now purchase kegs containing almost as much beer as THREE 30 racks (!!!)

tal benefits of reducing our packaging-to-beer ratio, which is really what we're all about here at Middlebury, anyway. Right?

With all of these things in mind, I was excited to see what changes the Community Council had recommended, and I contacted both co-chairs to get the full report. So I'm sure you can imagine my surprise when I learned that, in fact, no changes were made to the campus policies regarding 1/2 barrel kegs (your conventional party catalyst), and that instead only the policy regarding 1/4 and 1/6 barrel kegs was modified.

The new rules allow "informal gatherings" of 20 to 30 people to take place in senior residences and social houses during weekend afternoons and nights. At these impromptu congregations of like-minded individuals, up to one 1/4 keg may be present, without going through the hassle of party

host training or complete party registration. Instead, students must call Public Safety before transporting a keg to campus and give their name and ID number, as well as the serial number on the keg. The new rules also stipulate several preferred monikers for 1/4 and 1/6 barrel kegs, such as "quarter barrel, pony keg, Cornelius keg," or, for those in the know, a "corney keg." I'm glad the Community Council was so thorough in their review.

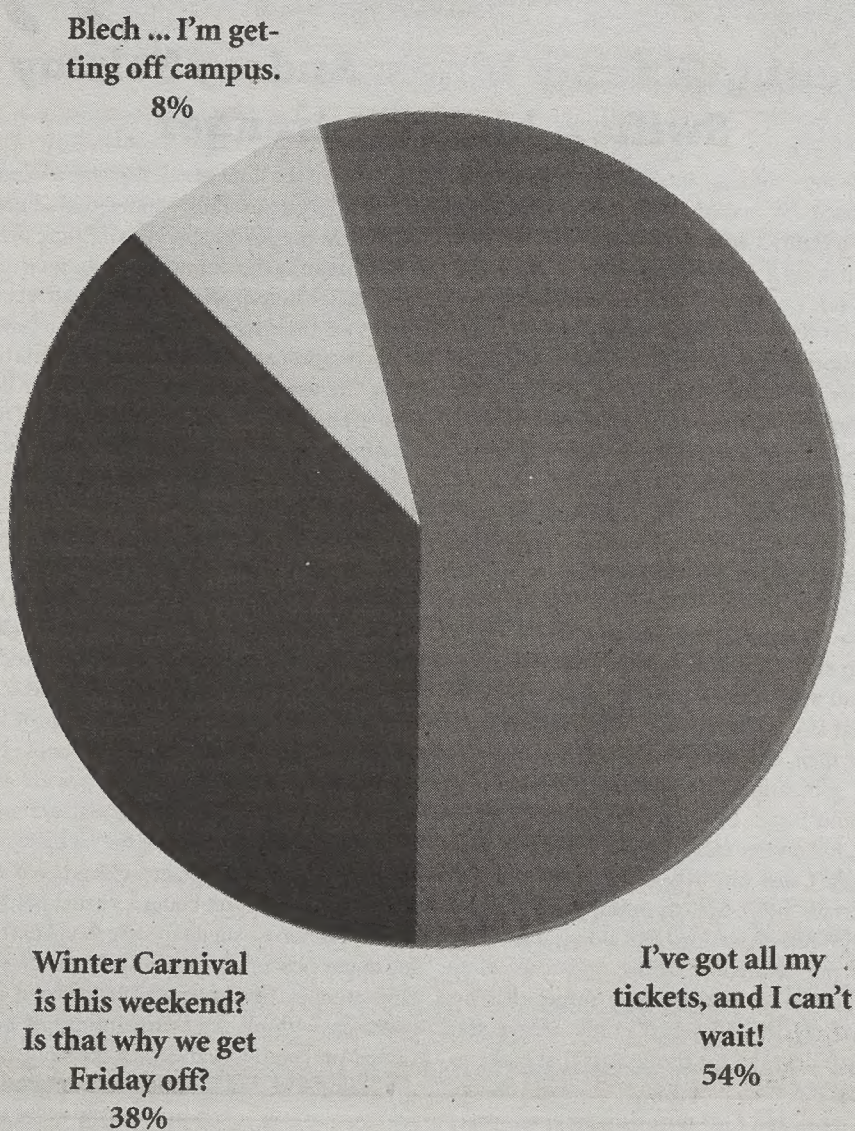
Allow me for a moment to disregard the heavy bureaucratic nomenclature used in the new policy and spell out exactly what these new rules entail. Well, thanks to real vision on the part of Community Council, students over the age of 21 can now purchase kegs containing up to 83 (!!!) beers and share them with 20 to 30 of their friends! Now, I'm no mathematician, but my calculations show that that is 4.15 (!!!) beers per person! Can people even DRINK that much?! And all we have to do is call Public Safety! And let them know that we will be drinking! As long as it is okay with them! And it is the right time of day! And we use the preferred nomenclature! It's a new day, ladies and gentlemen!

So yes, the keg policy has been reviewed. We can now purchase kegs containing almost as much beer as THREE thirty racks (!!!) whenever we want (within the allowed time frame, that is), and drink them with our friends! Score another one for centralized government! If only Congress were this proactive, healthcare would have already been reformed and we'd all be reaping the rewards of FREE BAND-AIDS (!!!)

MIKE WATERS '10 IS FROM BEDFORD, MASS.

The Campus Poll

What are your plans for Winter Carnival weekend?



Sample Size: 24

Letter to the Editor: Moriel Rothman

To the Editor:

If one wants to disagree with my opinion, as expressed in my Feb. 11 cartoon, by all means. But one should be carefully throwing around accusations that I "haven't done my research," as was stated in the Feb. 18 response to my cartoon.

The U.S. has pledged \$100 million in relief money (the number in last week's response, \$644 million, is the amount donated by private citizens — which was clearly not the subject of my cartoon). Despite the fact that \$100 million is a minute fraction of what has been poured into our lovely engagement in Iraq, it is indeed a good thing that the government was willing to give following the earthquake. However, it still remains to be seen — and this is the issue I sought to address in my cartoon — whether the U.S. actually intends to help Haiti, or whether our engagement will be limited to some emergency relief money, and a bunch of troops stationed in Haiti for a while, enabling us to proclaim, "We have done our part! Now, bootstraps, guys, bootstraps."

If we want to understand the problems in Haiti and America's hand in these problems, we must look back a bit farther than January. We must look back to 1804 when the Haitians successfully revolted against their European colonial masters and gained independence. This story — of a people rising up against a brutal European overseer and gaining independence — sounded strikingly familiar to the only other independent nation in the Western Hemisphere, and as a result the United States embraced Haiti with open arms. Wait, wait... No... it wasn't exactly a policy of open arms with which the U.S. responded. I think it'd be better characterized as a policy of "you're black; you don't deserve independence," enforced with almost 60 years of scorn and embargo, topped with a demand that the

Haitians pay reparations to their wronged French former-masters. Strange, huh, that the Haitian political system started off a bit off?

Fast forward to 1915, when the United States hopped on over to occupy Haiti to, as Mark Danner put it, "enforce continued debt repayment." The Americans decided to build up Haiti's infrastructure, benevolently bestowing the backwards Haitians with infrastructure, roads, and bridges (which oddly didn't seem to hold up so well this past month, despite the fact that there are known infrastructure reinforcement mechanisms that we could have easily funded, had we cared to do so — and Haiti is, after all, no stranger to natural disasters).

So, then the U.S. pulls out in 1934, leaving political chaos in its wake, which eventually led to the takeover by the murderous dictator, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier, who the U.S. tolerated quite nicely, since he was, after all, not a Communist. And so on. Mostly, though, after

pulling out, we paid very little attention to a country which we had a large hand in screwing up — although our inattentiveness was, of course, interspersed with military incursions every now and then.

I do not have a detailed prescription as to how the U.S. government should continue its engagement with Haiti. What I intended with my cartoon — and yes, maybe it was not the clearest message — was to assert that the U.S. has an obligation not to limit its assistance to emergency relief, and thereby allow Haiti to slip once again into squalor and chaos. If you disagree with that, that is your prerogative, and I would be interested to hear why. However, in the future I ask that people try to refrain from haughty accusations of "pathetic ignorance."

Peace,
Mori Rothman '12

What I intended with my cartoon was to assert that the U.S. has an obligation not to limit its assistance to emergency relief.

The Economist in Drag: Andrew Chong

Panda angst

When we think about evolution, all too easily we fall into thinking that Nature somehow has a will — that the survival of the fittest is her intention, and many of our institutions and ideas somehow stand against the march of progress. Whether we are willing to defend this view, it sits within many of us, as an influential idea in modern times, where our human condition — our consciousness, sense of morality — our emotions towards one another, even love and friendship all came about through the evolutionary process, where everything simply helps us to survive and procreate, and everything is tainted with the view that all is "red in tooth and claw."

It's a doubt about the nature of existence, and a destructive one. It removes from us the will and choice we think we possess and places us at the mercy of conditions inherited from millions of years of evolution. It also acts, for some of us, as a disingenuous justification when we find it necessary to do something against our usual notions of right and wrong. But there is faulty thinking in all of this. Evolution is a process of randomness, on a time scale that dwarfs the human anomaly that has emerged on the planet. It has no will, no intention; it is simply the fact that what lives has managed to survive and reproduce. It is not the intention of Nature that the fittest survive, it is only a fact that they do. And our notion of the fittest depends entirely on the prevailing conditions on the planet, which are continually changing.

At the present time, our social institutions and economic means of production, more than any natural condition, define those prevailing conditions. Whether or not the most intelligent or the healthiest members of the human race survive, Nature is entirely indifferent. We do not go against natural law when we select who survives and who does not. There is no such natural law; it is simply common sense that what continues on must survive. And if it should so happen that amorous space aliens should aggressively abduct all good-looking people, then the so-called good genes would be for ugliness. In other words, there is no real measure of what the fittest is or should be except for the prevailing conditions on our planet. And if humanity should wipe itself

entirely out in a nuclear war, where is Nature's will in all of this? There is none, and only the fact that man as a species has left no descendants, and is hence obliterated. In other words, there is no objective intention of Nature outside of us, but rather, we, as a people, may decide what is desirable, which certainly includes our notions of equal rights and a state as a political association among equals.

But stepping away from broader concerns about eugenics and social policy, we want to consider the internal implications of this mistaken view of evolution. As mentioned, we are led to doubt our individual wills, because they seem

This was an observation that, at the time, I considered too ridiculous to serve any evolutionary purpose.

to arise from conditions far beyond our control. Certainly, we are handed a set of contingencies, historical, evolutionary, and also personal from our family and growing-up, and our desire to understand these contingencies and transcend them already signify an attempt to reclaim our sense of free will and hence the meaning of our actions, such that our actions may belong properly to ourselves. For certainly it is always what we make of our contingencies rather than the contingencies themselves that define who we are. And if we are led down, in the usual postmodern manner, of doubting yet again the impulses that drive this desire to transcend our contingencies, that is a vein that is perhaps properly worth considering at some point in our lives, and always be somewhat aware of, but it should not rule our lives.

All this being said, as a child the idea of animals at play always did unnerve me, in the sense of it being primarily preparation for skills the animals would need in the future, and the biting, pouncing and wrestling exhibited in their play were training for them as killers, sometimes even of their own kin. Similarly, this extended for me, at the time, to the idea of innocent human play, and even morality, as all tainted with the worldview that I've outlined, as "red in tooth and claw." There was, however, an image from an animal factbook that left a lasting impression on me. It was about pandas (no kidding), and in particular young pandas, who have been observed in the wild to climb up snowy slopes, and having reached a suitable spot, would proceed to turn on their backs and to toboggan down the hills. This was an observation that, at the time, I considered too ridiculous to serve any evolutionary purpose. I mean, really, imagine their expressions as they rolled down the hills in those monsoon forests, looking up at the sky, and furthermore as they plodded patiently up the hill just to experience that brief sense of acceleration and weightlessness. Certainly, they were not filled with any angst but were simply free to enjoy their natural capacities. And so it seemed to suggest to me that red in tooth and claw does not drive all our impulses, that our intelligence has no committed subconscious motives, and that our consciousness, interpreting, is at least awake in the world, and if aware of some cosmic irony, is at least sincere in doing so.

Today, of course, I can easily come up with any number of reasons why their play might serve some useful evolutionary purpose. Who knows, there might even be a form of panda angst we have little means of understanding, probably revolving around their comedic appearances and how no one can take them seriously. Yet the story I told at the time, and the impulse that leads me to tell a different story today, to get around that virulent view of the world — that, perhaps, is something to hold onto.

ANDREW CHONG '10.5 IS FROM SIMEL, SINGAPORE.



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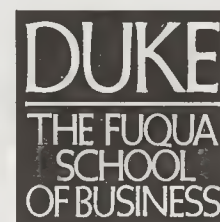
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Winter Carnival: Then and Now

All great schools have great traditions. There's the Bonfire on Dartmouth Night, the Doghead St. Patrick's Day party at Colby and the festive parade floats at Faber College, but none can compare to Winter Carnival at Middlebury. This weekend students, faculty and members of the town community will celebrate this annual event for the 87th time, making it the longest-held student-run carnival in the nation. The carnival itself is comprised of Nordic and alpine ski competitions held at the Snow Bowl and the Rikert Ski Touring Center, but over the years the weekend has developed into much more than that, with traditions such as snow sculpting and the Winter Ball making this one of the most memorable times of the year.

The festivities heat up Thursday night with a bonfire on Ross lawn followed by a fireworks show that will surely catch the attention of even those foolish enough to miss out on the ground-based pyrotechnics. On Friday, the real fun begins when classes are cancelled so students can watch their friends on the ski team take on rivals like Dartmouth and UVM in the final Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association (EISA) races of the season. This year's carnival is themed "Go Gold," due to the overlap with the Winter Olympics. This year, students can cheer on Midd-kids not only in Vermont, but also in Vancouver, as Simi Hamilton '09 and Garrott Kuzzy '06 represent America on the Nordic courses.

As the last carnival of the year, Middlebury's home event serves as the Eastern

Championships, further adding to its significance. Increased shuttle service means you can cheer on Middlebury's racers even if you don't have access to a car. Also, for those who are prepared to hit the slopes themselves, the first 20 shuttle riders on Friday and Saturday receive free day passes!

Student participation has been on the rise the past few years, but your presence is just as important as ever. Responding to student outrage at the slated elimination of the Friday recess in 2009, the Board of Trustees set up a three-year probation period to gauge student enthusiasm for the events. Thanks to the hard work of Winter Carnival Committee members Catherine Collins '10.5, Katie Hubbard '10, Derek Sakamoto '10 and Nicolas Sohl '10, the events have recaptured some of the excitement that had waned in the recent past. All students who want to preserve one of Middlebury's most iconic traditions should make it their business to go to the events and have some fun!

The following spread includes some links to Winter Carnivals past, as well as perspectives from current participants and a schedule of events. Use this spread to stoke your excitement about the upcoming events and as a guide to plan your weekend. And you will want to plan ahead because, though it is free to watch the races, some MCAB events sell out fast, so you will need to buy tickets ahead of time. So go out there and experience one of the the greatest traditions at Middlebury!

— Ted Silberman, Features Editor
Photos: Courtesy

Skiers sound off on their season: Nordic

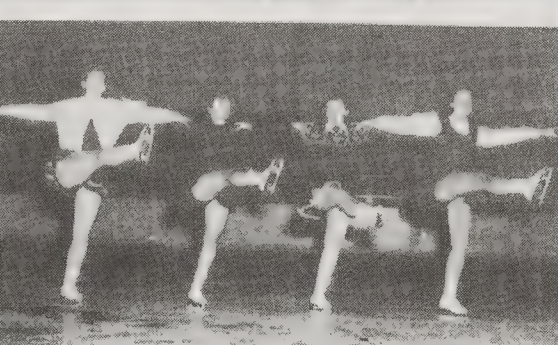
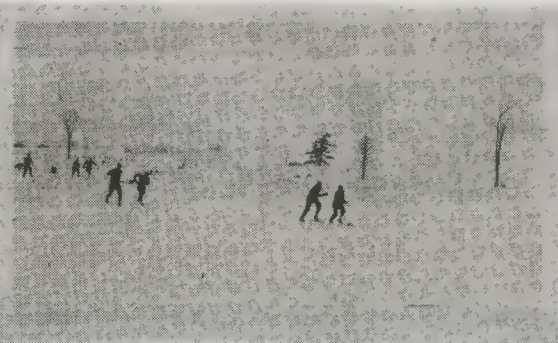
This season has been a pretty exciting one for the Middlebury Nordic team; with two former skiers in the Olympics and some fantastic results throughout the carnival season, regardless of what happens this weekend and at NCAAs, this season will certainly be counted as a success.

The men's team has established itself as the team to beat on the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association (EISA) circuit. Along with perennial rival and powerhouse Dartmouth, it has split the season's races, the Dartmouth men taking six victories and Middlebury taking four. Dylan Grald '13 has put in several outstanding results and currently holds the lead in the EISA Rookie of the Year standings, which he will sew up this weekend if everything goes as planned. Pat Johnson '11 has been dominant since returning from Germany, where he represented the U.S. at the World Junior Championships in January. This weekend is important for the men's team not only because it is Middlebury's home carnival and the Eastern Championship; this weekend's races are also the final opportunities to qualify for the NCAA Championships in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Johnson has already locked up a spot, but both Grald and I are looking for big races this weekend to confirm their spots as well.

Not unlike the women's alpine team, the women's Nordic team has suffered more than its fair share of illness and injury, but also like the alpine women, they have risen to the occasion and held their own against teams at full strength. This year's team has been paced by Lauren Fritz '10 and Corinne Prevot '13, in addition to the rock-solid performances of Keely Levins '13. The Panther women have tough competition in the Big Green of Dartmouth who are certainly one of the strongest women's Nordic programs in the country. Both Prevot and Fritz are on the edge of NCAA qualification (the top 13 athletes as determined by their best four races, two in each technique), so be sure to give them a big cheer as they go by.

We are looking forward to home course advantage this weekend and hope that Middlebury will once again come out in force to support both the Nordic teams. Saturday's races, starting at 10:00 and 11:30, will be the most exciting to watch as they are "mass start" format, where all 70 competitors race head-to-head over 15 kilometers for the women and 20 kilometers for the men. The ski races on both the Nordic and the Alpine side at Middlebury Carnival, believe it or not, are some of the most well-attended ski races in the country, and every year students tell me that they represent the most exciting spectating that Middlebury Athletics has to offer. Division I competition only comes to Middlebury once a year; don't miss out.

—Graham Egan '10, member of the Nordic team



Winter Carnival's evolution is apparent in the College's archived photos from the 1920s on ... yet some staple events have outlasted the fads and fashions of passing decades.

* To catch a glimpse of upcoming Winter Carnival Events, check out the calendar on page 16!





Skiers sound off on their season: alpine

The season thus far has provided the team with some great results. This year our men's team has shown a lot of promise and great results, especially from first-years Bryan Shpall '13 and Andrew McNealus '13. It's really tough to jump right into Division I skiing and those guys have definitely shown that they can compete with anyone. Our men's side has consistently been one of the top point-scorers of any of the men's alpine teams. Therefore, we really hope to use our home hill to our advantage, since it is one of the most unusual hills on the circuit, which definitely gives us an edge.

On the girls side, we have struggled with injuries through-

out the season, forcing us to compete with five girls at some of the races instead of the usual six. Even with this obstacle, the girls have really stepped it up with the added pressure and have provided some very valuable points to the team.

The team as a whole is really pumped for this coming weekend. Middlebury Carnival is always the most watched Carnival of any on the circuit. It is really great to see everyone out on the hill and it allows us to step it up to another level, knowing everyone is cheering for us. It would be great to uphold this tradition by having as many people up at the Bowl as possible, so we can continue to make the Middlebury Carnival the most anticipated race of the year.

Dartmouth has consecutively won the last 14 carnivals over the past two years. The last team to stop that winning streak was the Middlebury Ski Team and we hope to end their reign of terror by winning this weekend on our home hill. There is no better atmosphere than the Middlebury Carnival, which should help us put their win streak to an end.

—Jon Hunter '10, member of the alpine team



Weather

The past few weeks have not seen much precipitation in the town of Middlebury and students who have not been to the mountains may be skeptical of the snow conditions at the Rikert Ski Touring Center and the Snow Bowl. Despite these fears, the Middlebury College staff and ski team have been working hard to ensure the courses are sufficiently covered. The snow makers have been running and the ski team has helped shovel snow out of the shady woods to give enough coverage for the mass starting area for the Nordic events.

Over the past 87 years, Winter Carnival has experienced a wide variety of snow conditions. According to Snow Bowl Manager Peter Mackey, there has been only a handful of years when the College has had to use a cross-country venue other than Rikert.

Thursday

—Ted Silberman, Features Editor

Mid 30s, 90% chance of precipitation

Friday

Lower 30s, 70% chance of precipitation

Saturday

Lower 30s, 30% chance of precipitation

Looking back, moving forward

Winter Carnival is one of the College's longest standing traditions and one of the oldest college carnivals in the country, second only to Dartmouth College's. It is an event that, for many on the campus, is eagerly anticipated and enjoyed, remembered in snapshots, formal wear, concert tickets and memories as one of the markers of the Middlebury College experience. However, the line-up of events, attitudes and general atmosphere of the Winter Carnival weekend have certainly evolved and transformed over the years.

When asked what has changed about Winter Carnival from his years as a student at the College, Karl Lindholm '67, dean of Cook Commons and assistant professor of American Studies, replied simply: "Everything."

"Winter Carnival was a big deal — a really big deal," said Lindholm. "You have to remember that men and women lived on separate sides of the campus, which changed in 1968-9. You had to have a date for Winter Carnival."

In an article from the 1974 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*, Carol Miller wrote: "Some went to the Carnival Ball, girls dressed in gowns found especially for the occasion, and boyfriends coming from various New England colleges to escort their Middlebury girlfriends."

"Winter Carnival was enormous, and it was not exclusive to Middlebury College," said Lindholm. "People came from all over [to Middlebury College and Dartmouth College during their respective carnivals] for skiing and parties. All 11 fraternities hosted parties, and with one Public Safety officer for a student body of 1,250, you could wander around with open containers, walk from one frat to another with a beer. F. Scott Fitzgerald went to Dartmouth's Winter Carnival one year!"

Skiing was also, traditionally, a huge attraction.

"At the entrance to the Bowl, there was a long line of school

buses, bringing students up," said Lindholm. "Everyone was there; it was like you see on television. Fans lined the landing area."

That particular tradition began in 1932, when skiers at the College decided to host their own competition, in conjunction with Alumni Winter Weekend. In the earliest years, there were also toboggan races, speed skating and snowshoeing competitions. Though the athletic department ran the competitions initially, the Mountain Club took over, and in the early 1940s, the races moved to what is now the beloved Snow Bowl.

"The entire student body participated in these events which were the beginnings of Northern Lights," wrote John Owen in "Carnival Reviewed and Previewed," from a 1983 issue of *The Campus*.

The ice show was also a tremendous event, though it started to dissipate in the '70s and '80s.

"Everyone went to the ice show, and all of the acts were students," said Lindholm. "Now, it is mostly local kids."

In an article titled "ice show incites the heart's desire," Carol McAfee wrote, "about 936 woolen caps tossed in willy-nilly display of free-falling gratitude to the 1975 Winter Carnival Ice Show," proving how well-attended the event was in that era.

One event that has always been highly attended has been the Saturday night concert and dance, which used to be called "Klondike Rush," featuring two acts, some of which, in Lindholm's memory have included: Dizzy Gillespie, one of the revolutionary jazz musicians and founders of bebop; the Shirelles; the Simon Sisters; the Kingsmen; and even B.B. King in 1974.

In a 1974 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*, Seth Steinzor, in his article "The wait was worth it," described the scene outside of the venue for King's concert: "Time passed like Nixon, slowly and painfully. The drizzle did what drizzles do. The crowd grew steadily more crowded. Several people began chanting rhythmically, 'Let us in! Let us in!'"

The wait was "worth it," and attracted most students, some of whom spent time "getting psyched" as one staff writer explained it.

Students and visiting guests, during the Winter Carnival of the '60s and '70s, spent some time "getting psyched in general," mostly at the 11 campus frats, in the days when Munford House, the Centeno House, Fletcher, KDR and the Mill all housed fraternities.

In Carol Miller's '74 article, focusing on parties at Slug and Sig Ep, she wrote, "One girl paid her dollar, tried to navigate through the masses for about five minutes, then left because she 'just couldn't handle it.' Many, however, withstood the early onslaught to stay and dance as long as the bands would play."

The frats that housed such populated parties eventually declined until they were outright eliminated in 1991, and that, along with the raised of the drinking age in the early '70s and the Vietnam era ethos that opposed institutionalized events and organizations, helped lead to the comparatively anemic involvement that is more common to Winter Carnival, at least in Lindholm's view.

"The College is just a different place," said Lindholm. "American student culture 40 years ago was entirely different. Men aren't bringing dates to the Carnival; women don't have a midnight curfew; not everyone is wearing school colors, cheering at games."

With a larger, more heterogeneous campus, "not everyone will go to hockey games, and not everyone is a skier," Lindholm said.

"I wouldn't make qualitative judgements about which is better," said Lindholm. "That was then, and it isn't coming back. Some might talk about 'the good old days,' but I like Middlebury College now."

Though history and culture have altered the extent to which students are involved with events during Carnival weekend, the student body has also shaped and invented new rituals. The Carnival is a tradition morphing with the times, while prevailing as one of the traditional staples of life at the College.

—Rachael Jennings, Features Editor

Panel debates future of climate change activism

By Liza Winton
STAFF WRITER

The United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Copenhagen in December, has generated much uncertainty and debate. Copenhagen was arguably one of the most important international negotiations in recent memory. Still, the implications for our planet and for international politics are still unknown. What changes should be made for a post-2012 international climate treaty?

Last week, students Rhidaya Trivedi '12, Ben Wessel '11 and alumna Jaimie Henn '07, a 350.org campaign organizer, joined Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies Chris Klyza and Scholar-in-Residence in Environmental Studies Bill McKibben on a panel attempting to answer that very question. Listening to the panelists and their apprehension, one sentiment resounded: the future of the planet is being negotiated and the youth of this world needs to be a part of the decisions that will shape it.

Many young Copenhagen attendees like Wessel proudly sported emblazoned t-shirts with the words, "How old will you be in 2050?" Part of the negotiations was widely focused on trying to match new targets that science suggests must include up to a 25-40 percent cut in CO₂ emissions by 2020 and up to an 80 percent cut by 2050, Trivedi explained. Consequently, the panelists said, the people in

office making — or not making — these decisions won't be the ones to live through the repercussions of their actions.

While talks may not have produced immediate results, as Henn put it: Copenhagen went from "Hopenhagen to Nopenhagen" — a lot was happening amongst civil society members, especially young people.

One of the more remarkable aspects of the conference was the power asserted by some 2,000 young people present, who, in Wessel's words, "fundraised for over a year, who educated themselves, who were leaders in their communities ... and were coming to Copenhagen for the purpose of influencing their leaders to create an international climate treaty based on science and survival." There were so many young people that for the first time, international youth were considered an official constituent by the United Nations.

In Copenhagen, passionate and dedicated young people from all over the world had access to policy-making in a way that, in the panelists' view, should be made more available to youth year-round when dealing with issues such as those surrounding the Copenhagen summit.

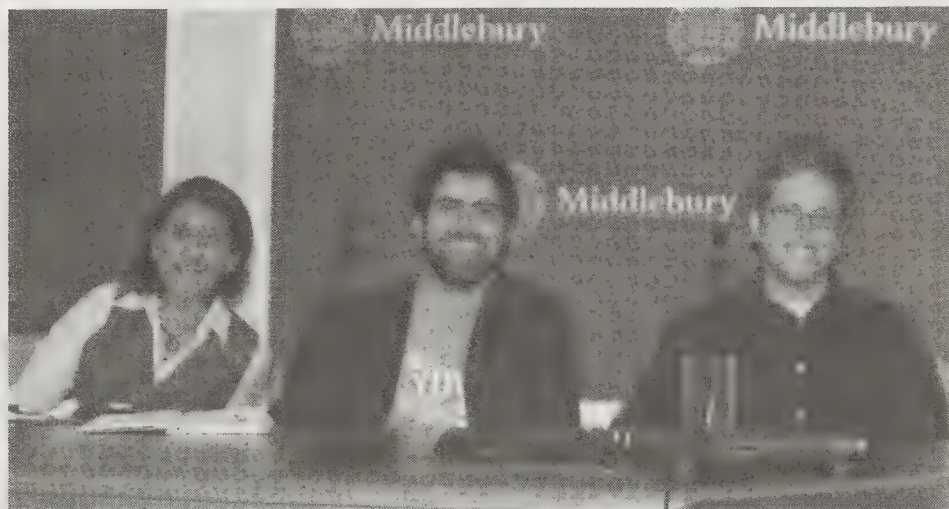
While 100,000 people from various countries, ages and socioeconomic backgrounds marched the streets, others had the opportunity to work on the "inside" of the convention center, some of whom were Midd-kids

advocating for legislation and policy change: Trivedi made her voice heard when she spoke to the administrator of the EPA and Wessel met with three members of Congress in the Hard Rock Café to discuss possible solutions to climate negotiations.

The panelists also addressed the pertinent question: beyond Copenhagen, what can young people do to advocate and implement change? Besides the progress in policy work that needs to be furthered, Henn explained, "there's a real need for public pressure.

There's a real need for the U.S. Senate to make progress. We must work on the national level."

Students who want to make a difference need to make their voices heard, according to the panelists. Said Trivedi, "That includes telling representatives what you want to see happen, and the criteria upon which they should be acting abroad." The 350.org campaign slogan expresses hope for a treaty that is "Fair, Ambitious, and Legally Binding," and this vision can only be effectively achieved through advocacy and civic engagement.



Kylie Atwood

Student and alumna panelists met to discuss the changes that should be implemented for a post 2012 international climate treaty.

Gorenberg offers solution to Israeli conflict

By Kelsey Collins and Tara Hughes
STAFF WRITERS

"The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is an issue that is often discussed and rarely understood," said Moriel Rothman '11, president of the Middlebury chapter of J Street U. On Thursday, February 18, Rothman and his group invited Gershom Gorenberg to speak on campus to help students better understand this complicated international issue.

Gorenberg is the author of several books on the subject, most recently "The Accidental Empire: Israel and the Birth of the Settlements 1967-1977." In his lecture at Middlebury, Gorenberg discussed the history of Israeli settlement as well as his belief that the current conflict can be resolved through a two-state solution. He outlined Israeli history, highlighting the Zionist movement after World War II, the Six Day War of 1967, and the theological and historical importance of the land where Israel and Palestine are today.

"Gershom's perspective brought a degree of nuance, reasonable criticism and perspective on both sides of the issue," said Rothman, who was very pleased with the turnout of the event. He added, "It is inspiring to see how

many people came."

Many students in attendance came in affiliation with J Street U or as members of international politics classes, but still others came out of simple curiosity, hoping to educate themselves on the issue.

"I didn't really know about [the conflict] when I walked in," said Tik Root '12. "I took this more as an informative lecture rather than something to inform my opinion from."

When asked what she was hoping to gain from the lecture, Maddy Boston '13 said, "I feel like the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is something important kids our age should know about, and I don't know as much about it as I would like."

There were also many non-students in the audience, such as local residents who are members of Havurah: the Addison County Jewish Congregation. The Middlebury and Havurah communities work closely together: Rabbi Ira Shiffer, associate chaplain and rabbi, is also the educational director at Havurah, and many Middlebury students volunteer there as Hebrew school teachers.

After introducing some background information on the conflict, Gorenberg discussed

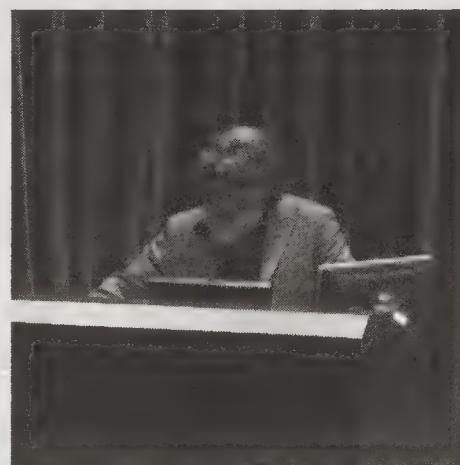
the current relevance of the situation to the current foreign policy of the United States. He believes it is essential for the United States to play a strong role in peace agreements between Israel and Palestine. He acknowledged that Obama's demand to stop Israeli settlement in the West Bank and Gaza strip was reasonable, but criticized his failure to directly appeal to Israeli citizens. Gorenberg made reference to Obama's address to the Arab world last June in Cairo, lamenting the fact that Obama has only appealed to the Islamic population and has not yet addressed the Israeli public.

To conclude his speech, Gorenberg proposed that a two-state solution is the key to resolving the current settlement conflict. He conceded that this arrangement is idealistic, and the reality of reaching this goal is challenged by the mistrust that Israel and Palestine have for each other, further complicated by the internal divisions within each country.

J Street U invited Gorenberg to campus to further its goal of promoting peace through education, by educating the Middlebury community "in a way that is nuanced enough to encompass the complexities of the situation, to foster discussion, and to gain support for

the eventual two-state solution," said Rothman. After a short question-and-answer session following Gorenberg's speech, Dana Auditorium slowly emptied, but discussion surrounding the conflict continued among audience members.

Upon exiting, Molly Farber '10 said, "I thought it was very informative and gave a good overview of the history of the conflict without any sensationalism."



Saila Huusko, Photo Editor

Gorenberg addressed pertinent policy issues.

staffspotlight

Gary Washburn, a 10-year veteran of Middlebury's custodial staff, has never been a stranger to long hours and hard work.

Born in Benson, Vt., a small town about 25 miles south of Middlebury, Gary grew up and worked on a dairy farm. He later attended Fair Haven Union High School and graduated in the Class of 1974.

Immediately after high school, Gary went to work on a farm in nearby Orwell, Vt. He worked there for about 11 years, becoming an expert at the job along the way.

After his 11-year stint in Orwell, Gary began managing a dairy farm in Leicester, Vt. Owned by an art dealer in New York City, the farm had about 175 milking cows — no small number for one man to manage.

During his time in Leicester, Gary did little in the way of sleeping. The only way to handle 175 milking cows is to hold long hours. And that is what he did, with days beginning as early as 3 a.m. and ending as late as 10 p.m. Of course, he wasn't particularly unfamiliar with this schedule — he'd been doing this for a long time.

After managing the Leicester farm for some time, Gary decided to become an entrepreneur in the early 1990s by starting his own cow hoof trimming business. With cows spending less and less time in the pasture because of modern dairy farming techniques, they don't naturally wear down their hooves anymore, which means they need to be trimmed twice a year.

Operating a hydraulic lift, Gary would tie the cows down and tip them on their sides, enabling him to use an electric grinder and an assortment of knives to trim the cows' hooves. He ran the business for about a decade, sometimes with the help of one or another of his six daughters.

By the early 2000s, Gary couldn't help but start thinking about his future, especially his

Gary Washburn

retirement. He came to work for the College in 2001 and has now been here for nearly a decade, holding a variety of positions. He enjoys his work at Middlebury and loves helping out the students.

In his free time, Gary enjoys hunting and fishing. His favorite activity of all, however, is target archery.

Although not a big fan of watching TV, Gary enjoys NASCAR and the Outdoor Channel. On the radio, he listens to oldies, especially songs from the '60s and '70s.

But if there's one thing he tunes out of, it's politics.

"I hate politics," he said bluntly.

Not one for the self-interested, deal-making aspect of politics, Gary explained that he's more of "the black-and-white type." Things are either one way or another, he said.

Gary looks back on his farming career with a degree of mixed feelings. He certainly recognizes the difference now between working at the College and working on a farm.

"The hours are one thing," he said. With farming, there's not really any distinction between the end of one day and the beginning of the next, especially when you're the one in charge, as he often was.

"Farming's a constant struggle," he said wearily.

Asked what advice he would impart to young college students, Gary thought for awhile — not an easy question to answer on-the-spot.

He took a deep breath and finally said, "Go with your gut feeling. Go after your dream. Don't let anyone tell you not to."

—Conrad Trimboth, Staff Writer

Presenters explore tough teaching topics

By Raffie Parke
STAFF WRITER

"What have you gained or lost because of who you are?" asked visiting professor of Education Studies Tara Affolterat last Thursday's roundtable discussion on teaching race, ethnicity and citizenship.

Members of the Middlebury community gathered in the Environmental Center at Hillcrest on Feb. 18 to hear a variety of perspectives on how to teach these difficult subjects. This was the second in a series of four events on teaching and learning diversity presented by the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity and the Center for Teaching, Learning and Research (CTLR). Hector Vila, CTLR faculty member and professor of American studies, Education Studies and Environmental Studies, facilitated the discussion.

Thursday's presenters reinforced the indisputably interdisciplinary nature of courses focused on race. Professor of Biology Jeremy Ward provided insight on diversity from a genetic standpoint. Citing the miniscule differences in DNA sequence between human racial groups, he pointed out that as a species, "We are all almost identical." The diversity of genetic makeup in humans, he says, pales in comparison to that of any other primate on Earth, varying between groups by only about 10 to 15 percent.

The question remains: How does this information affect the education of future citizens in a society where race is such a defining factor? "I'm struck by the similarity of individuals, but doubly struck by how little that means in a day-to-day world," Ward said. However, he believes in the importance of teaching students the basics of genetics from an early age. This way, teachers can "take the focus off of the social issues and instill a love of science"

that will help them to understand observable differences throughout their lives.

With this in mind, attendees then heard from Jason Mittell, professor of Film and Media Culture. Mittell, author of "Genre and Television: From Cop Shows to Cartoons in American Culture and Television and American Culture," brought up the representation of race in the media. Social norms as they are shown on television can be heavily influential in shaping a culture; as Mittell put it, "not as a reflection but a constitution."

When it comes to the classroom, Mittell was adamant that issues regarding socially dividing lines should be addressed in a variety of subject areas. Teachers, he said, should "integrate questions of race, ethnicity and gender into classes," instead of building classes around these questions. Students then learn through practice that these concepts are not to be isolated but discussed and appreciated in everyday life.

Just as Mittell referred to television as a microcosm of society, Affolter sees schools as representative of values on a larger scale. In her opening remarks, she quoted American educational reformer John Dewey: "Democracy has to be born anew every generation, and education is its midwife." The version of society in schools proves to be massively influential on the version that emerges as a result, making things like a racial "achievement gap" particularly concerning.

In addressing ethnic differences, she posed her introductory question. This concept, though "discomforting," needs to be taken into consideration in order to work on creating and improving opportunities for future students of all racial backgrounds.

"Colorblindness is comforting but ultimately damaging," she said. "It doesn't get us anywhere."

The question-and-answer portion brought forth ideas on the day-to-day implementation of teaching diversity. Professor of Education Studies Claudia Cooper addressed the deflection of responsibility. She brought up the way that this attitude is not limited only to questions of race, but also applies to other discussions of diversity, such as sexual orientation. It is important to remember that no one is unaffected.

"There are so many layers that we have to pull through, starting with awareness," said Cooper.

"We are all part of the experience and the solution," said Susan Burch, professor of American Studies and director of the CTLR. Just as dialogue on ethnicity should transcend the boundaries between subject areas, it should not be limited to certain social groups.

Dilanthi Ranaweera '09 brought up the feasibility of student-initiated action (given that the appropriate research has been done, as Vila pointed out). "It's important to come together and make a point," said Ranaweera.

With a grin, she concluded her pitch to students. "If you want to rally, call me up!"

Affolter is equally adamant about dialogue being a crucial step in the process.

"I think that the only way to push for a more inclusive and anti-racist community at Middlebury is to authentically enter these conversations," she said. "That means we are willing to be vulnerable and willing to be wrong. It means that if we are members of the dominant group that we critically examine the ways we perpetuate dominance and leave our privilege unquestioned and unchallenged. It also means that we listen and that we keep coming to the table to find multiple opportunities for everyone to access learning, feel included, and be a part of a vibrant and truly diverse community."

The L-Word



The posters and e-mails advertised "an informal, safe, inclusive and fun conversation about the importance of pleasure in the context of sexual intimacy," and naturally, I thought, "I am all about some sex conversation — let's do it!" The workshop on "Mastering the Art of Sexual Conversation" on Feb. 19 was not, however, what it was advertised to be. I think Jyoti wanted it to be the feel-good, open conversation about healthy intimacy she described in her fliers, but Oliver Barkley, one of the hosts and a self-described professional sex educator, wanted to talk about sexual assault. RIP, my conversation boner.

Don't think that I take sexual assault lightly — it's an important topic, especially on a college campus. Just like the continued presence of STIs and accidental pregnancies on our campus suggests we still need reminders to have safer sex, so does the occurrence of sexual assault on our campus suggest that all of us aren't up to speed on when it's okay to get physical with somebody. I've seen three of the sexual assault posters in the bathrooms changed from "Sexual assault is never the survivor's fault" to "Sexual assault is sometimes the survivor's fault," which says to me we either have a few individuals with a sick sense of humor running around, or that some of us are still grossly unclear on the meaning of the word "assault." We undoubtedly need to continue stressing communication and compassion as much as condoms in the bedroom, but devoting Friday night's discussion to that was a lost opportunity to do something different. When do we as students ever get to discuss positive sexual encounters?

Whenever an older adult talks to me about sex in any sort of formal capacity, I leave feeling like a chastised child: "If you insist on getting hot and heavy with your peers, at the very least use a condom, and for goodness' sake don't let me catch you having drunken sex of questionable consent with a stranger. You should know better than that." The message coming at our age group (18-20-some-things, sorry older readers) from all sides is that it's quite unfortunate we're allowed to copulate because we're really not ready to. I won't say we are or we aren't — I think it varies on an individual basis — but the fact is that we're all attractive, talented and full of raging hormones. There's going to be some serious sexing going on, and while I appreciate the efforts of our elders to protect us from the potentially dire consequences of our awkward fumbblings in the dark, I would also appreciate it if the criticism we have to listen to were a little more constructive. More talks à la "I Female Orgasm" and fewer like "STDs: A Discourse on Discharge." Sex education is invaluable — I just wish it didn't sound like thinly veiled attempts to get us to stop doing it.

I think asking older adults to stop treating us like children with explosives between our legs is only half the issue. To a certain extent, we have to stop acting like children first. It still boggles my mind that as confident, mature individuals who can give a solid thesis defense or organize Haiti relief efforts or jumpstart sustainability at our college, some of us still can't make eye contact with past hook-ups in the dining hall, or can't stop measuring sexual prowess by the number of partners we've had. I think if we were expected to make a little more meaning out of our sex lives, to be more responsible with our sensitive psyches, we'd rise to the occasion, but I also think the ball is in our court on this one — we need to make the first move. Having a consensual pants party is a right, just like drinking is a right if you're over 21, but they should both have the same motto: party responsibly.

Lea Calderon-Guthe '11.5 is a local news editor from Chapel Hill, N.C.

Cooking (not) by the Book

It has happened to the best of us: you meant to do homework on that sunny Saturday, but all of a sudden some friends call, and there's a barbecue involved, and the next thing you know, you're dartying the day away. By the time 4 p.m. rolls around, it feels like 2 a.m. and you're dying for a Grille run. Unfortunately, the Grille doesn't open until 5 p.m., a tragic casualty of budget cuts. But Proctor opens at 4 p.m., and there's no reason you shouldn't be able to recreate that "Godfather" using the contents of the dining hall kitchen. Better yet, you can use the \$5 you would have spent on Grille food for a more noble purpose.

This idea came to me when the thought of yet another cheese quesadilla was doing nothing for me, and my pseudo-vegetarian (and by pseudo-vegetarian I mean I avoid red meat on a semi-regular basis ... the things Middlebury does to you) palate was crying out for some deliciously mysterious lunch meat. This sandwich has gone through several evolutions, each of which brought it closer to a true Grille Godfather. So shotgun that Busch Light, grab your 'special' water bottle, and head on over to Proctor!

1. Choose your bread. If you're go-

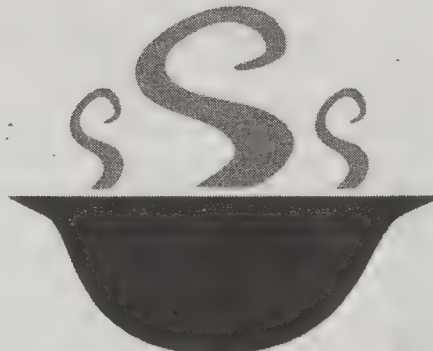
ing for true Grille authenticity, I'd suggest some lightly toasted white or wheat bread. If you're lucky and you've stumbled upon some French bread over by the soup, take advantage of your good fortune and use that. If you're looking for Godfather-esque flavor without the calories, grab a pita pocket or some lavash. Lay off the wraps for this one — they bring an unwanted texture to the table.

2. Head over to the sandwich bar and add a light layer of Dijon mustard to your bread. Follow it up with several slices of salami — obviously the quantity is up to you, but when using a pita I'd keep it to two or three for optimal panini pressing, and to keep the pita from tearing.

3. Add some cheddar cheese to your sandwich, but you don't want it to overpower the other ingredients, so be cautious.

4. I'm not a huge fan of peppers, but I have it on good authority that they add some quality flavor and a nice crunch. If you're in the mood, layer on a few banana peppers for good measure.

5. This is where things can get messy, so be aware: drizzle on a light layer of olive oil, followed by a comparable amount of balsamic vinegar. The bottles in the dining hall are a quick pour, so try to keep your



hands steady!

6. The final touch is a quick grilling in the panini machine. Melt the cheese, get some sweet lines on your bread and enjoy!

To really make this sandwich Grille-worthy, be sure to add some Ruffles chips. And, for the final touch, add some pickle slices. That addition is clutch and may just push your meal from the realm of imitation to super creation, because when it comes to the Grille, pickles, like a good man, are hard to find. Let me know how it goes ... if you dig it, I'll be tempted to expand my Grille repertoire to include the Love Me Tender. And maybe some falafel, for those of you who like snacks.

—Maggie Moslander

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Winter Carnival To-Do List




Thursday

- 
8 p.m. — Bonfire
 The festivities begin with a rager — or at least a raging fire.
- 
9:30 p.m. — Fireworks
 Start the weekend off with a bang. BYOB ... Blankets, that is.
- 
10 p.m. — Orange Crush
 So what if half the student body wasn't even born in the '80s? Dance it out. Big hair and visible sports bras are optional but encouraged.

Friday

- 
9:30 a.m. — Ski Races begin
 Bundle up, grab a group of friends and hop in a car (or board a public ACTR shuttle) to make the most of this oh-so-rare holiday from classes. Go Panthers!
- 
All Day — Snow Sculpting
 Looking to revisit a simpler time, when "snow days" meant no school and endless fun? Whether your idea of great ice art is a basic Frosty or a scale replica of the Eiffel Tower, there's a place for you in this contest, which will be held on McCullough Lawn.
- 
8 p.m. — Pete Holmes & Jay Black Comedy Show
 Two comedians for the price of one.
- 
9-11 p.m. — Ice Party
 Hang out in Kenyon Arena with DJ Ben Schiffer. You guys can "chill."

Saturday

- 
2-5 p.m. — Northern Lights
 Human dogsled, snowshoe, sledding and tug-o-war relay competitions rage on the Mead Chapel Hill. Sponsored by the Middlebury Mountain Club.
- 
7:30 p.m. — Ice Show
 Come see the most fabulous figure skaters from the College and community!
- 
10 p.m. — Go Gold Winter Ball
 Carnival concert programming finishes on a high note with the Ball, which will feature two different acts. The event's opener is DJ Officer Chris, and the main act is DJ Earworm, best known for his "United States of Pop" mash-ups that mix together the best songs of the year.

Veguary sprouts awareness

SNG tries alternative approach to neutrality

By Tess Russell
MANAGING EDITOR

Move over, Gaypril — there's a new awareness-raising month in town. Through the combined efforts of Sunday Night Group (SNG) and the commons, "Veguary," which aims to promote conversation about CO2 emissions and sustainability in food while bringing students together in a relaxed and social atmosphere, has come to Middlebury in the form of two Friday Night Candlelight Dinner events.

During the Friday Night Candlelight meals, students will be encouraged to "Do It In The Dark" and to join

the "Clean Plate Club," in an effort to save energy and reduce waste, respectively.

Kate Olen '11, a member of SNG and the primary organizer of Veguary at Middlebury, called the first meal — held last Friday in Ross dining hall — "a great success."

"The dining hall looked beautiful with its candlelit ambiance, and students seemed interested to know that the dinner was connected to Veguary," said Olen.

Veguary has a particular connection to Middlebury; the movement was founded in New York City by high schooler Andrew Udell (brother of Jacob Udell '12), who wanted a chance to "test vegetarianism out and learn more about its benefits," according to the campaign's Web site. Udell enlisted a few friends to help him, and together they began encouraging people to "Pledge To Be A Veg" — or, at least, to make an effort to eat less meat during the month of February.

Olen further explained the goal of Veguary as a way to encourage alternative approaches to achieving carbon neutrality.

"[We want] to demonstrate that we as students can take an active part in achieving Middlebury's goal of carbon neutrality in many ways," said Olen. "Whether it's saving energy by dining by candlelight, reducing our carbon footprint by eating more vegetarian meals, or even saving water by showering together, small efforts will help make carbon neutrality a reality."

The Friday Night Candlelight Dinner events, for which Sid Singh '13 did much of the preliminary organizing, were co-sponsored by SNG and all five commons. The second event will be held this Friday, Feb. 26 in Proctor Dining Hall.

For more information about Veguary, including delicious recipes, visit <http://www.veguary.org>.



Students enjoy the romantic, relaxed and environmentally-conscious candle-lit dinner at Ross Dining Hall.

winners&losers

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Public Safety

You're no longer the most feared authority figures on campus.

Liquor Inspector

One weekend was bad enough, but making a reappearance on Winter Carnival?

"Midd Kid Rap"

Three things that Middlebury has that Yale doesn't: The Snow Bowl, straight dudes and a sense of humor.

"That's why I chose Yale"

Yale's class of 2015 will be filled exclusively with members of the Zac Efron fan club.

Swimsuits

Check out the new *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit edition. It's dank. Love, Kevin Carpenter

Snowsuits

Somehow they just don't compare.

Now Open

Village Car Wash

Greek Road Middlebury

- All new state-of-the-art equipment
- Totally touchless - totally automatic
- New ownership (this is our 4th location)
- Open 24/7 for your convenience
- Cash or credit cards

4 Wash Options

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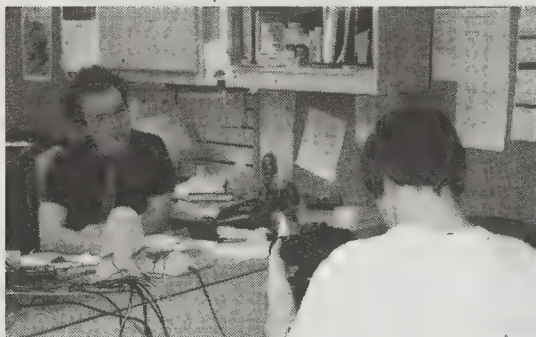
the making of...

Mr. Show



film and theater students team up to reinvent HBO's "Mr. Show"

by Toren Hardee



Courtesy

On the first weekend in March, the Hepburn Zoo will house a production titled "Mister Show with Neil and Andrew," starring Neil Baron '10 and Andrew Powers '11.5, as well as Ben Orbison '12.5, Alyssa Limperis '12 and Wyatt Orme '12.5. The show will consist of a series of scenes culled from the HBO series "Mr. Show with Bob [Odenkirk] and David [Cross]," a sketch comedy show with a cult following that ran for four seasons between 1995 and 1998. Like the original, Middlebury's own "Mr. Show" will feature a combination of live, onstage material and prerecorded video bits. *The Middlebury Campus* sat down with co-directors Brad Becker-Parton '11.5 (who is in charge of filmed material) and Ele Woods '11 (managing the theatrical side of things) to discuss this ambitious production.

Middlebury Campus: Could you describe the format of Mr. Show, and how that will translate into a stage production?

Ele Woods: Well, each episode of Mr. Show is really one continuous narrative, and we wanted to be able to pick and choose different sketches and not go through just one episode, so we wrote our own transitions between sketches. Because of that, we rely really heavily on video to create smooth transitions in between the live sketches, so a lot of it is going to move between stage time, then video time, then stage time.

Brad Becker-Parton: There's two or three sketches that are long video sketches, but for the most part, the video essentially just picks up the action once they've exited the stage through the door, and then it puts them back in through the door once the filmed piece is over.

EW: And we've added some things to make these different sketches fit with each other.

MC: How did you decide which sketches to use from the show?

BBP: A few people, Neil and Andrew mostly, sent out an email of their favorite sketches, and then Ele and Andrew went through and pulled ones that were good.

EW: This is kind of Neil and Andrew's child, and they asked Brad to help. Then when Brad was not here over J-Term, I stepped in, so I kind of stole Brad's role, and Brad has ended up directing the film side of things—

BBP:—which I think is working great.

EW: Yeah. So we wanted Neil and Andrew to have their choice of sketches, because it's really their passion project. We started with them just choosing which ones were their favorites and tried to narrow them down a lot; which ones were way too hard, which ones work.

MC: As far as the multimedia aspect of the show goes, how are you going to set that up in the Zoo, with projections and the like?

BBP: Well, normally in the Zoo, the seats are against the wall right when you walk in, with the stage opposite that.

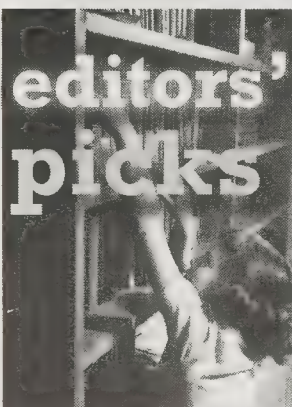
EW: It's normally hamburger-style.

BBP: We're gonna hotdog it. So the seats are going to be on the right when you enter, and the stage is going to be opposite them, on the left side of the room, with a video screen to either side of the stage.

MC: Have you run into any obstacles? Because with any production like this, involving technology, that's bound to happen.

EW: We haven't started filming the "Pre-Taped Call-in Show" bit

see page 19...



editors' picks

26 Big APE at FlynnSpace
FlynnSpace
Burlington
8 p.m.

Big Action Performance Ensemble (Big APE) and Artist-in-Residence Tiffany Rhynard present their latest performance, "Disposable Goods." The show challenges the audience to think about waste — both personal and material.

27 Voices
McCullough
Social Space
8 p.m.

Inspired by global rhythms, Philip Hamilton '82 creates an original a cappella performance in conjunction with the Vermont A Cappella Summit. He will mix styles of a variety of backgrounds and international flair, creating a diverse performance.

28 Natasha Koval
Paden, piano
MCFA Concert
Hall
4 p.m.

Natasha Kovel-Paden performs an all-Chopin program in honor of the composer's 200th birthday. Critically acclaimed and internationally-trained Kovel-Paden will bring her talent to the MCFA Concert Hall stage this Sunday.

02 Border Brujo
Ross
Commons
Seminar Room
7 p.m.

Guillermo Gómez-Peña delivers a convincing account of U.S. colonial attitudes toward Mexican culture and history. This screening — which explores the conflicts and collisions of the cultures — is sponsored by the Dance Program.

FOR THE
record

by Alex Blair
Artist | The Magnetic Fields
Album | "Realism"

Over the course of their 20-year existence, the Magnetic Fields, led by their notoriously dour songwriter Stephin Merritt, have explored nearly every genre of popular music imaginable. From jazz to punk, synth-pop to shoe-gaze, the Fields' varied style has garnered them a reputation as a fearless and endlessly inventive indie band. Their latest album, "Realism," the final installment in their "no-synth" trilogy, finds them venturing down a safer road with an uninspired entry into folk-pop. Merritt tries hard to salvage the album with his sardonic and biting lyrics, but, ultimately, the album crumbles under the weight of its hackneyed and often underdeveloped music.

One of the rare bright spots on "Realism" is "You Must Be Out Of Your Mind," the album's opener and best track. Although it borrows its melody and chord progression from about ten other Magnetic Fields songs, "You Must Be Out Of Your Mind" contains such infectious hooks and clever lyrics ("I want you crawling back to me/On your knees/Like an appendectomy/Sans anesthesia") that its trite songcraft receives a pass. Unfortunately, on the rest of "Realism" a pass is hard to come by.

"The Doll's Tea Party," a xylophone-heavy waltz, hovers the shockingly thin line between a Raffi-esque sing-along and Victorian dinner music, neither of which suit the Magnetic Fields very well. "We Are Having Hootenanny" and "The Dada Polka" act as traditional folk romps, employing painfully repetitive song structures and nursery rhyme-like melodies that sound as annoying as they did when I was three. "Seduced and Abandoned" is the Fields' take on classical music. The initial surprise of its incessant harpsichord, delicate horn section, and baroque melody wears off pretty quickly, leaving behind another frustratingly mundane piece. Simply put, "Realism," with its short and all-too-familiar songs is an unoriginal mess.

The band's use of organic instruments, traditional folk music, and a minimal album title, suggest they're making a blunt statement about what "real" music is. "Realism" nobly challenges the hyper-produced studio garbage that Lady Gaga and Miley Cyrus pollute the airways with these days, but its dull, folksy ditties just make me yearn for the artificial buzz of "Poker Face" and "Party in the U.S.A."

The only tracks that warrant repeated listens are those that sound complete. Along with "You Must Be Out Of Your Mind," "I Don't Know What To Say" and "Everything Is One Big Christmas Tree" are polished pop songs, maintaining that wonderful verse-chorus-verse formula. On these tracks, Merritt, if only for a brief moment, puts folk aside and employs the catchiness and cleverness that made him famous.

When it comes to recording fully realized and quality songs, the Magnetic Fields have never been a consistent band. Forgettable tracks and throwaways pervade each of their albums, but while their past efforts, like "69 Love Songs" and "Distortion," offered a number of brilliant songs that overshadowed or, at the very least, balanced out the filler, "Realism," aside from a few notable tunes, sounds entirely slight.

'Disposable Goods' prove quite valuable

By Dana Walters
ARTS EDITOR

On Friday, Feb. 26, four dancers clothed in recycled clothes will command the FlynnSpace, Burlington stage in a performance titled "Disposable Goods." However, seemingly antithetical to the environmentally-aware themes pervading the show, they will also share the floor with a brand-new toaster oven. Instead of still holding burnt crumbs from the '80s, the toaster's marks are more like scars from having its price tag prematurely ripped from its side. But it's not the performers' fault, really.

"I set out to make it very low-maintenance," Artistic Director and College Artist-in-Residence in Dance Tiffany Rhynard explained. "I tried not to buy anything new. A lot of the costumes are used; I found them on eBay, or I found them in thrift stores. The toaster oven was new. That was the one thing that we had to buy because the first one that we brought in that was used started smoking."

Preventing the show from going up in flames — literally and figuratively — was only one of Rhynard's many tasks. While she gives herself a specific title in the program notes, Rhynard has her hand in pretty much every aspect of the performance. At the same time, every production she engages in is extremely collaborative.

"I enter the rehearsal process willingly communicating that I don't have it all figured out, and that I don't know yet," Rhynard said. "And I leave some things open and we'll come back to it ... or I'll ask them [the dancers], 'What does that feel like? How does this transition feel when we go from this section to this section?' They give me feedback and that informs my decisions too."

In her program notes, Rhynard says the origin of "Disposable Goods" arose from listening to the CEO of Stonyfield Farms, Gary Hirschberg, at last year's graduation ceremony. "He spoke about a magical place called 'away' where everything goes that we don't want to deal with," Rhynard's notes say. "And in this case, he was talking about trash and how his

company deals with its waste. So of course I thought about my own crap too. Refuse. Rubbish. Riffraff. Scum. The Unwanted. We ship it out in metric tons by the truckload every day. Gone. Out of sight, out of mind."

With idea in hand, Rhynard received a grant from the Vermont Arts Council to produce the dance, which has already shown a few times and will premiere in other locations in the next few months. Following Burlington, the four dancers — Ellen Smith-Ahern '05, Yina Ng '08, Simon Thomas-Train '09 and Rhynard — will travel to New York City.

No matter the venue, Rhynard hopes her viewers walk away having had their consciences peaked. "I don't have this expectation that the audience will all go, 'Oh. A-ha!'" and have the same conclusion at the end," she said. "I hope that it poses questions and gives the audience something to think about, to ponder, to chew over ... I willingly accept or sign the contract that some people might not like it, or might not grasp on, or have the same interest in the subject matter. There are certain things that are out of my control."

Despite the realization that not all are ready to be challenged, Rhynard will still attempt to provoke a "shift in perspective" or a "kinesthetic response." Although it is a comparatively low-maintenance performance, "Disposable Goods" distinguishes itself through the participatory opportunity for the audience. In this way, the dancers hope to further elucidate and convey their message. As the Web site for Rhynard's dance company, Big Action Performance Ensemble, explains, the group is "not interested in entertaining, pleasing or holding your hand." Instead, Big APE's dancing is about forcing you to "think, feel, react, move, sit up, stand up and take action."

Composed of four parts — "Spill," "Away (from here)," "Trash" and "Necessity," — the show centers on the question, posed by Rhynard, of why we are driven to consume.

"There are two threads running through 'Disposable Goods,' which is this mass consumption and excess and the frivolous nature



Courtesy Alan Kimara Dixon

Simon Thomas-Train '09, Yina Ng '09 and Ellen Smith-Ahern '05, during rehearsal.

that people in our culture lead their lives, myself included. I mean, I recycle, but I'm no saint. I'm not perfect," Rhynard laughed. "And then the other track is this question: Why are certain people thrown out of the community? Is it because they're breaking the law? Or not fitting in? Or not able to make the right choices?" People, it turns out, are "disposable goods" as well.

One of the dancers, Ng, elaborated on the piece. "Disposable Goods" is a piece that is falling apart, and makes its point falling apart," she said. "It's almost like a collage but yet it's not a piece of choreography that follows the 'stream of consciousness.' It makes a more substantial point than that ... But the feeling of separation or dissection ... each part away from the others ... informs us much of the position we are in when we're disposing unwanted material or consuming excessively."

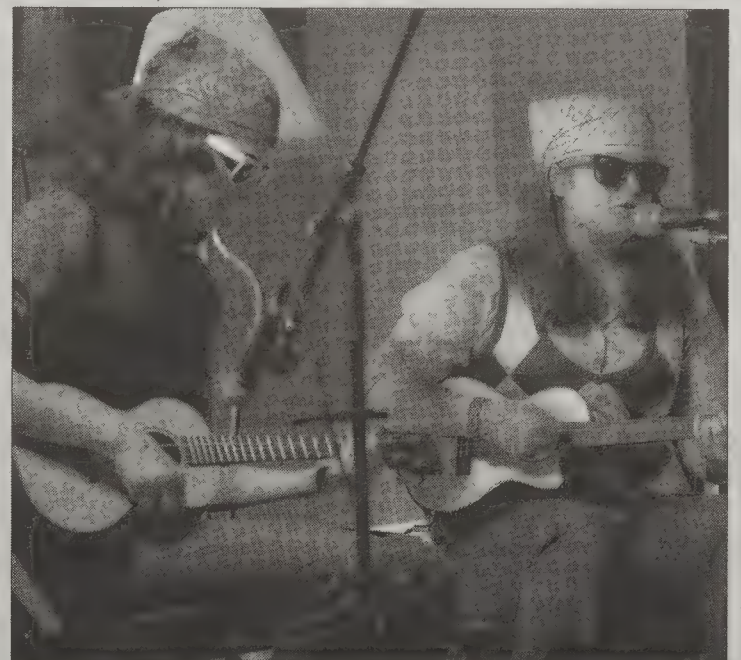
With the upcoming performance in Burlington, Rhynard was particularly enthused, urging newcomers to attend. "I would say that if you haven't gone to a dance performance before, or don't know that much about dance, I would encourage you to come to the show because I think that it is accessible in that the dancers, the performers, are portrayed as real people ... The dancers are regular people, they're not nymphs or fairies or superhero virtuosic dancing machines — I mean, they are fabulous dancers — but there's not this distance between dancer and performer where the audience is in the dark witnessing this spectacle of virtuosity. My goal is never to just entertain you. It's never that safe. I think there's something accessible about the intimacy that happens in the exchange between the dancers and the audience."

"Disposable Goods," as a show meant to confine the viewer in towards a message not particularly comforting to most, might not be "safe," as Rhynard says, but in forcing one to confront the problems of the world, it at least creates the hopeful sense of knowing that someone believes enough to blast it out loud for the world to hear. Or in this case, to see.



Courtesy Alan Kimara Dixon

Big APE will perform "Disposable Goods" at FlynnSpace in Burlington, Vt. on Feb. 26 at 8 p.m.



Andrew Podrygula

F.U.C. KANYE HITS THE GAMUT ROOM, UKULELES IN TOW

The all-female student band — which formed in light of the Taylor Swift/Kanye West "imma let you finish" fiasco — performed in the Gamut Room on Thursday, Feb. 18, just one day before No Eye Contact, another ukulele boasting group.

Sketch comedy takes over the Zoo

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

yet, but we already are cringing, because it's just ... essentially what it is, is a call-in talk show that airs a week after it's taped, and so the people calling in all want to talk about last week's topic, and at one point Neil gets aggravated—

BBP: — and he drags over a monitor that he has and says, "Look at last week!" And on that video that he's playing, *that* Neil is saying, "Look at last week!" It's like when you have two mirrors facing each other. But we'll only have a week to film it, because you can't make it until you have the set for it built — the set needs to look exactly the same on stage as it does in the video.

MC: That seems like a perfect encapsulation of what these mixed-media projects can be like; it's super ambitious, and there are a lot of elements that have to come together and it could be really hard to pull off, but it could be a great, unusual sort of thing. Are there any other pieces that you're excited about, which are really unconventional and haven't really been done here?

EW: Well, I've definitely seen a Zoo show involving projectors, like Monty Python, but this one is different.

BBP: Yeah, a lot of this is actually sitting there and watching the video ... the two spheres interact, but there will be stretches of two to five minutes where nothing is happening on stage, and I think that's different. Also, I want it to come off as if we're taping an episode. If I filmed the theater parts, then I could splice together a whole episode, with audience reactions and everything, which I want to do. And in the intro, Neil and Andrew will be sitting on the couch watching TV, and one of the channels is going to be the stage of the Zoo, empty. And they're going to say, "We're supposed to be there!" And they'll get up and run around campus, and eventually, into the actual live



Members of the "Mr. Show" cast rehearse in preparation for the March 1 performance in the Zoo. Erika Wade

MC: It sounds like it's going to be very reflexive and self-referencing, and that's very much in the spirit of Mr. Show.

EW: Yeah, there's going to be a lot of the characters opening the door in the video, and then walking live through a door onto the stage.

MC: This is sort of a different question, but I wanted to talk about sketch comedy on campus, and there's this core group that is very invested in promoting this sort of thing. The Otters have been around, and you guys started Middlebrow, but with Monty Python last semester and now this, it seems like this form is getting some momentum behind it. And is that just because it's a mode of performance that you all really like, or do you also feel like there's something else behind that which you think is important to bring to campus?

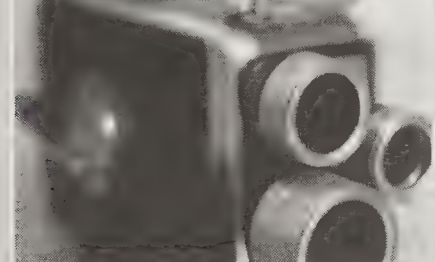
EW: Well, it's definitely something different. I think diversity is really important in terms of theater on a college campus. And a lot of the

time the theater performances here are very similar — if it's a comedy, it's going to be a black comedy, or maybe every once in a while you'll get a slapstick. But I have never seen sketch comedy, except maybe in the intros of the Otter Nonsense shows.

BBP: There's certainly a theater audience here — all the Zoo shows always sell out, which is really cool, but I think that there's a lot of people who complain about Zoo shows always being so serious and so heavy. I think that it's important to have that exist, because the theater department has a great style, but there are a lot of kids who are interested in doing different things that are not that style. I think recently there have been a lot more independent projects. And as far as sketch comedy goes, it's a fun way of doing something different.

EW: I think someone needs to start a sketch comedy group here! We have two improv groups, and there are a lot of really funny people on campus — I think the next step would be to have an independent sketch show in the Zoo with original material, written by students.

THE REEL CRITIC



by Michael Suen
MOVIE | *Shutter Island*
DIRECTOR | Martin Scorsese
STARRING | Leonardo DiCaprio

The clouds hang dark like an omen. Two cigarettes sizzle blood-orange in the fog: an apprehensive reply to the island, a hulking shadow which has emerged from the brooding haze. Low musical notes swell to a loud crescendo, then ebb quietly into a nook at the back of the brain. From the start, "Shutter Island" affects a world that is dizzying and uncertain. No wonder our shudders come easy.

Here, Martin Scorsese has employed cinema to its buxom fullest. The dread that pervades the disappearance of an insane asylum patient from her locked cell in 1954 is visceral, cerebral and emotional. Based on the 2003 novel by Dennis Lehane ("Mystic River"), the film is an exploration of repressed pasts. How can we face the unthinkable violence and horror we are capable of committing and, indeed, have committed?

"The past is never dead," quoted Scorsese in his acceptance speech for lifetime achievement at the Golden Globes. "It's not even past." For U.S. Marshal Teddy Daniels (Leonardo DiCaprio), the past occasionally surges forth like the storm that whips Shutter Island. As he and his partner Chuck (Mark Ruffalo) search the fortress-turned-asylum for a missing invalid

locked away for drowning her three children, Teddy also sees flashes from a Nazi concentration camp he helped liberate and visions of his murdered wife Dolores (Michelle Williams).

High cliffs overlook crashing waves and the ghostly outline of a distant lighthouse — its true purpose uncertain — dot the landscape. Inside, the rooms are claustrophobic, the floors spiraling upon one another — an architecture not helped by Teddy's constant migraines.

Mood is the most compelling achievement here. In this department, the past also continues to operate as Scorsese draws on the film vocabulary of classic noir, psychological thriller and the horror genre. At the start of the film, we behold the marshals' point of view as they are driven through the sinister stone gates of the mental institution. Guards holding rifles stare ahead lifelessly and an old female patient — face skeletal, eyes gaping — brings a finger to bloodless lips.

There are shades of Hitchcock and Lynch in the way the world feels off-kilter and things happen, then un-happen. No one on the isolated rock offers helpful direction to the marshals. Characters disappear, only to casually reappear later on. The institution's director Dr. Cawley (Ben Kingsley), and his German colleague (Max von Sydow) seem to cat-smile their way through all the questions. All the while, Teddy hears whispers of torturous psychological experiments being conducted on the island not dissimilar to those once carried out at the Dachau concentration camp.

It's not possible to talk about the film without first unspooling the mystery, but let there be no doubt that Scorsese, ever the perfectionist, consciously aimed to confuse. Whether his strategy succeeds entirely is another issue.

"The mood and tone of the picture and the atmosphere was in my head, it's in my blood in a way," said Scorsese at a press junket in London. "Once I decided to make the film, I have to find my way into that mood to choose, select, emphasize moments and sound and ultimately that's when I call in my

collaborators."

Teddy's dissolving sense of reality — one you can sense in DiCaprio's weary squint — is tied to the film's structure itself. The movie asks questions that have answers not meant to be immediately clear. What exactly is happening on Shutter Island? Who can we trust? Ruffalo especially straddles the line between empathetic and suspicious just perfect and, likewise, Kingsley imbues his oily director with the right dosage of distanced amiability.

As with any Scorsese picture, the cast is top-notch. Beyond the strong main performances, also welcome are brief appearances by Ted Levine as the prison warden, Patricia Clarkson as a psychiatrist, Elias Koteas as Dolores' murderer and Jackie Earle Haley as an anguished patient.

Whether it be a twitching Nazi officer's blood pooling onto the polished wood floor or the silhouette of an inmate crouched in the dark of his cell, Scorsese's long-time cinematographer Robert Richardson and editor Thelma Schoonmaker ensure that the visuals linger. Forgoing "Gimme Shelter," Scorsese also recruited Robbie Robertson of The Band to supervise the compilation of a modern classical score both outrageous and gut-wrenching.

With all the haunting sounds, images and mystery afoot, "Shutter Island" certainly compels. Some reviews have been alienated, however, by its ambiguous plot twists and madcap dream sequences. The movie is a pastiche of narratives, genres and film references. The indecision as to the exact kind of cinema it wants to be may not sit well with some viewers.

As to whether the film's revelations genuinely put the puzzle to rest, even I have some qualms. Even a final flashback with Teddy's wife Dolores, played with utmost sincerity, feels uncertain after such a long and winding labyrinth. We want an established world, one we can believe in. But then again, maybe such a place never existed at all.



by Philippe Bronchtein

This is the first column by The Campus' new fashion columnist, Philippe Bronchtein '10. "Flannel Mammal" will run bi-weekly for the rest of the semester.

Hello! For better or worse, I am the new fashion columnist. As I sit down to write this, I'm admittedly anxious and questioning of my own merit as the fashion columnist. After all, I haven't done laundry since 2009 and I've worn the same outfit three days running. My closet is almost exclusively flannel and jeans, mostly purchased from Costco. I read no fashion blogs, know relatively few designers, hate going shopping, and consider a bottle of Jack Daniels to be an appropriate fashion accessory.

So why me?

I think it's safe to say that what I lack in credible fashion experience, I make up for in a decent sense of personal style and strong aesthetic opinions. For example, I find the rubber flipper-sandals Crocs to be some of the most abrasive creations since Heelys became popular in 2005. That said, my job is not to judge anyone or make anyone feel stupid for wearing Crocs. My opinions about other's fashion sensibilities are largely irrelevant and should be taken with several hundred grains of salt. Wearing clothes that make you happy is one of the simplest pleasures in life. Which brings me to the point of today's column.

If you look good, you feel good.

Fashion and dressing well is a way we express ourselves every day. Often, it's subconscious and other times it's practical (i.e. these pants aren't too dirty), but no matter what, the way we dress is the way we present ourselves to our community. I can't think of a better feeling than rolling up to the dining hall rocking nothing but denim. The Canadian tuxedo is one of my favorite ways to present myself to the world. The matching jean jacket and faded blue jeans tells the world, "I know I look ridiculous, but I'm gonna look damn good while I do it." I've been searching hard for a pair of matching denim shoes, but they're more elusive than you might think. Wearing my Canadian tuxedo makes me feel fantastic.

The individual that braves an outlandish outfit is on a quest to feel as good as he/she looks. This brings in the element of confidence. As the saying goes, 'confidence makes any outfit.' Of course, there are exceptions. A grown man in a Speedo and Heelys is more delusional than confident. Delusional grown men aside, confidence can be that extra belt hole that makes your pants fit just right.

This also reminds us of the importance of remaining non-judgmental towards people who wear something that we consider to be silly or unfashionable. The staple of the bros, the popped collar, is something that I myself would never dare to don. I think it looks more like a poorly designed fabric neck brace than a fashion statement. However, while I could come up with witty analogies all day (protective funnel for rabid dogs), it's important to remember that the person who pops the collar does so because they know they look good with that collar popped. And what would be more misanthropic than to feel animosity towards someone who is confidently striving towards feeling good. Even if someone's aesthetic is in stark contrast to your own, we're all pushing towards the same thing: feeling good. Fashion is just a means to that end.



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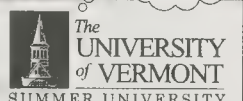
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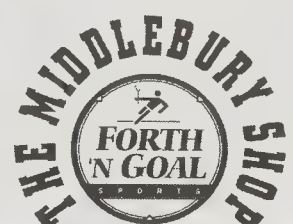
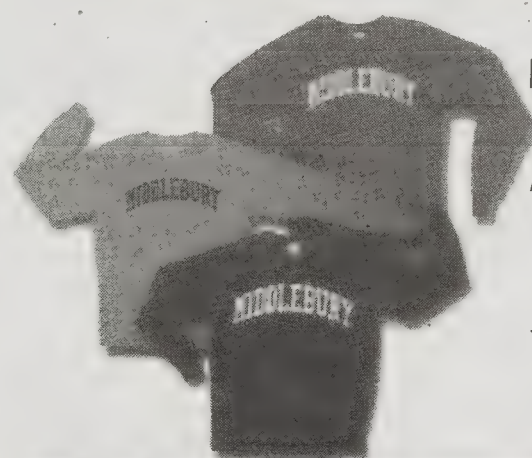
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PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
2/20	Men's basketball	Trinity	56-52 W	In a surprisingly close game, Middlebury rallied late to pull off a satisfying win in front of the sellout crowd in Pepin.
2/19 2/20	Men's hockey	Skidmore Castleton St.	3-1 W 7-2 W	With the two road wins, the Panthers end the regular season on a six-game win streak.
2/20	Skiing	Williams Carnival	Fifth place	Competing against familiar rivals, the ski teams slid to fifth place, behind Dartmouth, UVM, UNH and Williams.
2/19 2/20	Women's hockey	Bowdoin Colby	4-2 L 5-0 W	Despite dominating offensively, the Panthers fell to Bowdoin, but channeled their Friday flop into a Saturday shutout.
2/19- 2/21	Men's squash	Team Nationals	First place (C flight)	The Panthers dominated the C-flight, winning the title game against Amherst in exciting fashion.



BY THE NUMBERS

0	Number of days until Winter Carnival starts.
12	Number of miles from the College to Bread Loaf.
13.5	Number of miles from the College to the Snow Bowl
11	Number of shuttles leaving from ADK a day during Carnival
100	Percentage of ski races you should watch this weekend.

Editors' Picks



Questions	Alyssa O'Gallagher	Emma Gardner	Katie Siegner	Kevin Carpenter
What place will the Panthers earn in this weekend's Middlebury Carnival?	FIRST And I'll be there to cheer them on at every race. You should be too. Dartying is encouraged.	SECOND Please just beat Dartmouth. Come on, Leah!	THIRD Gotta impress at a home event! (and no excuses now that there's actually snow.)	THIRD No matter where you finish, I'll always be proud of you.
Will either of the men's hockey goalies have a save percentage above 0.9 against Tufts?	NO Tufts proved to be a pretty formidable opponent first game of the season.	YES The Tufts tie was a fluke, and these goalies are ready to set the record straight.	NO Taking a lesson from the men's bball game vs. Trinity, never underestimate the underdog.	YES Yanchev '12 was on fire over the weekend, which is funny since he plays on ice. (Boooo, Kevin. Bad joke.)
Will Andrew Locke '11 tally over three blocks against Colby on Saturday?	YES I heard he's listed as 6' 10". Clearly the answer is yes.	YES Did you not see his face floating in the stands on Saturday? That's what I call magical.	YES See our back page photo for proof — I'm scared of what would happen to me if I bet against him.	YES Blocks are so dank.
Who will grab gold in the men's hockey showdown in Vancouver?	U.S.A. I predict we'll dismantle the Russians — 1980 at Lake Placid or 1990 in Berlin all over again. Take your pick.	U.S.A. U.S.A. ALL THE WAY, U.S.A. ALL THE WAY, U.S.A. ...	U.S.A. I'm feeling a miracle this year...	U.S.A. We shamed Canada. A hockey scene is on their \$5 bill. HAHA!
Who will be atop the contested Northwest Division at week's end?	DENVER NUGGETS My roommate is from Denver.	OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER When was the last time these guys, (or their city, for that matter) did something noteworthy? They deserve some kind of break.	UTAH JAZZ Cool name. I don't have anything else to say as Kevin is now insulting himself... this is weird.	DENVER NUGGETS I think Denver and Utah are going 2-1 this week, but I am a mush, so who knows.
Career Record	36-32 (.529)	64-78 (.451)	26-43 (.377)	37-39 (.489)

Track & field returns home with several All-N.E. athletes

By Alyssa O'Gallagher
SPORTS EDITOR

Last weekend both the men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Maine to compete in the New England Championships. While the men competed at Bates in a field of 20 other schools, the women were one of 25 teams running at the University of Southern Maine. While the women were overall more successful, finishing seventh to the men's 15th, several athletes on both sides received All-New England honors, awarded to athletes finishing in the top eight in their events.

Perhaps the highlight of the meet for the women, the 4x800 relay team of Becca Fanning '12, Sophia Spring '11, Cailey Condit '11, and Margo Cramer '12 finished first in their race, garnering New England champion status for the entire relay. In addition to dominating the 4x800, Fanning finished second in the 800, qualifying provisionally for the NCAA indoor championships in the process. Several other women's athletes, dominated by rookies, also earned All-New England honors in their events. Grace Doering '13 finished second in the high jump. Fellow rookie Emily Dodge '13 competed well in the field, finishing seventh

in the long jump, while also finishing seventh in the 55 hurdles. Sarah O'Brien just barely won All-New England honors, finishing eighth in the 1000. Cramer represented the distance contingent with a fifth place finish in the mile and the distance medley team of rookies Jessica Berry '13, Molly McLean '13, O'Brien, and Spring School records finished third in their event.

Several school records were also set at the meet, an indication that, heading into post-season competition, the team is peaking at the right point in the season. The 4x200 relay team of Alice Wisener '11, Anjuli Demers '10, Mia Martinez '12, and Anna Thurston '13 built on their successes at MIT, finishing sixth and setting a new school record with a time of 1:50.23. Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 set a new school record in the 600, while Julia Sisson proved her all-around athleticism finishing 12th in the pentathlon with a score of 2,497 points, a new school record.

"The girls did awesome as usual," said Mike Schmidt '12, putting these results into words. However, while the men's team often seems outshined by the women's on paper, Schmidt noted that "most of the athletes on

both teams were able to beat a lot of people seeded ahead of them. A lot of us were underdogs and everyone competed very well."

In fact, the men had several notable finishes, with Addison Godine '11 at the front of the pack with a fourth place finish in the 800. Schmidt, who has consistently been one of the men's best distance runners, finished seventh in the mile and added some experience to the distance medley relay team of Nolan Link '13, Patrick Hebble '13, and John Davies '13, which ultimately finished seventh in the event.

Rounding out the men's All-New England contingent, Kristoffer Williams took sixth in the men's pole vault with a jump of 14' 11", and John Montroy finished eighth in the 55 hurdles.

Overall, the teams see these positive results as a hopeful indicator of how the coming season will play out.

"The men's team qualified more individuals and relays than we have in a long time," said Schmidt, "and we had a bunch of All-New England guys (and girls), so we're hoping to build on that success in outdoor."

Men's slalom leads Middlebury to fifth place finish at Williams

By Paul Carroll
STAFF WRITER

After seeing improvement last week at Dartmouth, the ski team took a slight step back this weekend down at Williams. The team took fifth overall, finishing behind Dartmouth, UVM, UNH and the hosting Ephs. Despite some impressive individual performances and a good day for the men's alpine team on Saturday, the Panthers could not overcome some key setbacks.

The men's alpine team had a great showing on Saturday, placing two racers in the top ten in the slalom event. Jake Lund '11 took fourth place and Brian Shpall '13 was not far behind, taking sixth for the event. Lund, who recorded his best finish yet this year, was happy with the result.

"I've been skiing well as of late," said Lund, "but until Saturday I hadn't put anything together. I'm happy to be peaking toward the end of the season, and Saturday's result definitely gives me a lot of confidence going into our home carnival." Friday's GS event proved to be successful for the Panthers as well. Shpall and fellow first-year racer Andrew McNealus '13 finished 12th and 13th, respectively, while Brian Swartz '10 took 21st.

While men's alpine had a successful weekend, standout women's skier Nicole Dvorak '11 was the story of the weekend for Middlebury alpine. Dvorak produced two top-ten finishes in her two races on Friday and Saturday, finishing eighth in the GS and an impressive third in the Slalom. Dvorak has been performing well for the Panthers all year, pacing a women's alpine team that has been improving every race, and was positive about the outlook for the upcoming home carnival.

"This is exactly the kind of momentum we need as we enter the final carnival, said

Dvorak. "I am confident we will see some excellent moments on our home hill this weekend." Lindsay Kraft '11 finished behind Dvorak in the GS, coming in 14th, and Christine Schozer '13 came in 23rd to round out Panther scorers. Schozer also scored in the slalom, placing 27th, followed by Leah McLaughry '10 in 31st.

The Nordic side did not see the success it has grown accustomed to this season. In the last two carnivals, the men's Nordies have been winning events left and right, dominating their competition behind some clutch performances courtesy of Patrick Johnson '11. Last week at Williams, the team did not win an event outright, but still performed well. Johnson continued his success, turning in a second place finish in the 10k classic and a 10th-place finish in the 10k freestyle race. Dylan Gald '13 and Chase Marston '12 also turned in solid performances in the 10k classic, finishing 10th and 13th, respectively. The 10k freestyle, however, saw a drop-off with Middlebury's next scorers, with Jimmy Levins '11 and Marston, coming in 24th and 28th, respectively.

The women's Nordic side produced some impressive finishes as well, led by Corrine Prevot '12. Prevot paced the Panthers in both the 5k classic and the 5k freestyle, placing 10th in the classic and 20th in the freestyle. The next scorers in the 5k classic were Keely Levins '13, notching 16th, and Lauren Fritz '10, in 18th. The freestyle saw Fritz right behind Prevot in 21st, and Levins rounded out scorers in 32nd.

This weekend is Winter Carnival and the alpine and Nordic teams will be hitting the Bowl and Breadloaf hard to improve their performances from the week before. With a fresh coat of powder from the recent snowstorm blanketing the mountain, there is no reason why the ski team shouldn't be up all night on Saturday celebrating a successful weekend.

Panthers end regular season play with dominating 5-0 win

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

the second half of the first period after fellow rookie Heather Marrison '13 put the Panthers on the board at 9:52. The scoring continued in the second period, with goals from Ashley Bairos '10 and Madison Styrbicki '13, as goalie and assistant captain Lani Wright '10 continued to block anything that came her way from Colby.

"After getting 46 shots against Bowdoin and only scoring 2 goals, we really wanted to focus on putting the puck in the net [on Saturday]," said assistant captain Heather McCormack '10, adding that "heading into playoffs, this will be especially important, as we will be facing stronger teams with skilled goaltenders. We have definitely learned our lesson — we know that we have to take advantage of our opportunities."

The Panthers' efforts and renewed motivation came together in a solid win to round out the end of the season, leaving the team with a record of 15-6-3 and a 10th-place Division III ranking going into playoffs this weekend.

"We stumbled a bit on Friday night,

but then came back and played well against Colby on Saturday," said Heidi Woodworth '11. "Libby Miner had her best weekend yet, scoring four goals. It's really exciting to see her gaining so much momentum going into playoffs."

Performances like Miner's will be key in the next few weeks as the Panthers step up their efforts to capitalize on their skills and play their best in the face of intense competition.

As one of the dominant leagues in Division III, the NESCAC comprises some of the best teams in the country, including last season's national champion Amherst — currently ranked second, and fifth-ranked Trinity.

"We just have to prepare ourselves mentally and know we can and want to win on Saturday," said Miner.

It will take all of the Panthers' strength to overcome the obstacles they face, but as part of a team that has been a perennial competitor in NCAA playoffs, securing the third-place trophy last season, the Middlebury women are fully capable of defeating any team that comes their way.

Men's squash takes the C-flight at Nationals in New Haven

By Jeb Burchenal
STAFF WRITER

While the Panthers had hoped to climb into the B-flight this season, a second C-flight championship in as many years is quite an accomplishment. After a season in which the 17th-ranked Panthers played teams ranging from fourth-ranked Princeton to 50th-ranked Bard, the men traveled to Yale and successfully defended their C-flight crown.

College squash nationals are broken down into flights of eight teams. Unlike NCAA-sanctioned sports, squash does not have divisions that separate David and Goliath. But, in their stead, flights at nationals allow teams of similar caliber to compete for a title, as opposed to the right to lose to a powerhouse somewhere in the bracket. Middlebury entered the tournament as the first seed in the C-flight, looking to repeat last year's title victory.

The first match of nationals was against 24th-ranked Denison on Friday. More of a warm-up than real competition, the Panthers quickly dispatched the Big Red, 8-1. A day later, Middlebury took care of 20th-ranked George Washington, 6-3, in a match that Middlebury dominated more than the

score reveals. While the flights help to group talent, squash is still a very stratified sport.

"We never take anyone lightly," said captain Simon Keyes '10, "but we knew Amherst was going to be the real test at the end."

A test it was.

Having beaten Amherst twice during the regular season — including a 7-2 destruction in the NESCAC tournament — the Panthers knew this team well. But, steered by revenge and the return of their number-four player on the ladder, Amherst put up a much better fight this time.

"Amherst really came hard this time in pursuit of the title, and even though many of our players were not on their best day, we all worked very hard to win the match," said #1 Valentin Quan '12.

The Amherst #4 returned to play after missing the whole season due to injury. Less a play to win the #4 match, this move strengthened the bottom of the lineup. Amherst, it seemed, thought it could sacrifice at the top in order to claim some wins at the bottom. After the first three matches — #3, 6, and 9 — Middlebury had a 2-1 lead thanks to the consistently superb play from #3 Brian Cady '11 and a gutsy perfor-

mance by #9 Will Piekos '11 that Eliot Jia '10 described as "dominant, especially against a guy he had lost to earlier in the season."

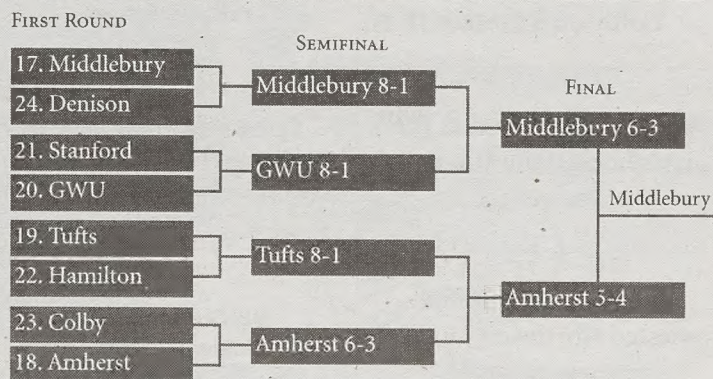
Following the games at #2, 5 and 8, the teams were dead even at three apiece. Though all three seniors lost their matches, Quan was quick to point out that "the leadership of Simon [Keyes], Eliot [Jia] and Micah [Wood '10] was very important to keep us up during the match." After Spencer Hurst '13 earned a win at #4, putting Middlebury up 4-3, both Quan and Addi Disesa '12 found themselves down 2-0. With the match and the championship on the line, both players rallied and forced five games. While Disesa fell in the fifth, Quan showed his mettle as a true #1 and captured the victory for the Panthers.

Claiming a second C-flight

championship in two years, Middlebury is establishing itself in the squash world. The end of this campaign truly marks the beginning of Head Coach John Illig's squash program.

"Simon, Micah and I are the last class that was here for our club squash days, and it's great to see how much we've progressed in the last few years," said Jia. "Hopefully, by next year we will be able to make it into the B-flight and keep moving up in the rankings."

2010 SUMMERS CUP (C DIVISION)



Pink Panthers deliver solid showing at home

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Audrey Tolbert '13 also had an impressive meet, as she proved her endurance finishing fifth in the 500-freestyle and sixth in the 1,650-freestyle.

The relay teams upheld this pattern of success as well. Most notably, the 800-freestyle relay team, comprised of Katherine Loftus '12, Annie Friedlander '11, Daly and Tolbert, came out victorious with a time of 7:35.33, breaking the school record by six seconds.

"Audrey Tolbert did an incredible job holding off one of the fastest D-III swimmers (from Williams) in the country as the anchor leg of that relay," commented co-captain Katie Soja '10. Additionally, the 200-medley relay team, which included Salena Casha '13, Remington, Yu Wang '10 and Friedlander, finished in a solid fourth place. The 400-freestyle relay team, comprised of Daly, Tolbert, Remington and Casha, finished in third place, as did the 200-freestyle team made up of Daly, Tolbert, Loftus and Remington.

"It was really incredible," said Soja of the weekend. "I think we shocked a lot of teams, and beat a lot of people who were beating us earlier in the season." The women's team is happy to have had a successful season, and looks forward to cheering on the men's team who will be competing at Williams in the NESCAC tournament



Andrew Podrygala

The diving team, coached by the current NESCAC Diving Coach of the Year, excelled at home.

Men's hockey enters postseason with two wins

By Ellen Halle
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury men's hockey team emerged victorious in the last weekend of regular season play, beating both Skidmore and Castleton State on the road. The Panthers are now skating into the playoffs with a six-game winning streak.

The four-point weekend began with a 3-1 win over the Skidmore Thoroughbreds on Friday night. Saturday afternoon followed as the Panthers garnered a handy win

MEN'S HOCKEY

Friday, February 19

Middlebury	3
Skidmore	1

Saturday, February 20

Middlebury	7
Castleton State	3

over Castleton, 7-3.

Middlebury completed the regular season with a slim second-place finish in NESCAC standings behind Bowdoin. Had Bowdoin lost this weekend, Middlebury would have taken over the top seed. The Panthers are now slated to contest seventh-ranked Tufts in Kenyon Arena on Saturday as they move into the postseason.

The Skidmore victory was not the Panthers' greatest match, but they did what needed to be done to come out on top. Skidmore came out strong and took the lead in the first period, but the Panthers went on the rebound to quickly score with a Mathieu Dubuc '13 goal assisted by Tom Clayton '13. Clayton led in points for the night, notching the game winner in the third period during a 4 vs. 4 situation.

Charlie Townsend '10 added an empty net goal late in the third for his 10th goal of the year. John Yancheck '12 skillfully minded the net, only allowing Skidmore's first-period goal and saving 25 of the 26 Thoroughbred shots on goal. During a crucial Skidmore power play in the third period, strong defense kept Middlebury ahead in the match, with Yancheck netting five saves during those important two minutes.

The men found their stride on Saturday, soundly beating Castleton State, 7-3. In a game rife with penalties, the Panthers were dominant across the board, seeing five different players score. While on Friday the Panthers went 0-for-5 on power-play opportunities, they went 4-for-10 against Castleton State, a marked improvement from the night before.

The Panthers pulled away from a 2-2 tie to score three straight goals late in the

second period, seeing goals from captain veterans John Sullivan '10 and Townsend as well as from Jak Knelman '12. Sullivan had two goals on the night, while Nick Resor '12 rounded out the scoring with two goals in the third period. Yancheck was again impressive in the goal, making 36 saves between the pipes.

As of Feb. 16, when the NCAA Division III Ice Hockey Committee released its regional rankings, Middlebury was ranked fourth in the East Region. U.S. College Hockey Online has the Panthers similarly ranked at sixth.

In both polls, Middlebury men's ice hockey is the highest ranked NESCAC team on the list, which bodes well for the men's confidence and playoff hopes. The Panthers have shown an impressive turnaround from two weeks ago when they sat fifth in the NESCAC standings, winning their last five games by a total combined score of 22-8.

The Tufts game will be an interesting showdown, considering that the teams have not met since their season-opening tie. If the Panther winning streak continues in front of the home crowd this Saturday afternoon, Middlebury will move onto the NESCAC semifinals and one step closer to the NESCAC championship that eluded the squad last year.

O'Gallagher's Opinions

by Alyssa O'Gallagher, Sports Editor

I am a New Yorker. Throughout my tenure at Middlebury I have always identified myself as such. Most evenings in the fall I gathered around the TV in the Hepburn Lounge with all the other New Yorkers (and, those poor souls, the New Jerseyites as well) to root for our teams, either the Giants or the Yankees depending on the night. Throughout the season, I think we all came to recognize those unwanted intruders, the Patriots or Red Sox fans, who joined us because either their teams weren't on or their seasons had ended a little prematurely, and inevitably spent the entire night hating on anything and everything they could. For incessantly tainting what is the holiest day of the week for me (Football Sunday), these unnamed detractors quickly jumped to the top of my Sunday night sh*t list.

As the end of February rolls around, the number of Americans suffering from seasonal affective disorder skyrockets; but this isn't a medical column, and no, I'm not talking about the one with the simple UV light fix. I'm talking about that feeling that lingers until around April, when Opening Day miraculously wipes away all memories of the dreaded sports doldrums. This time of year, with baseball season long over and the last embers of football season burning out, many find themselves a little lost, perhaps trying to substitute some basketball or hockey here and there to tide them over until at least spring training. But unfortunately for all the hockey fans out there, even the NHL is now out of the equation since the league has been suspended for Olympic play.

With the advent of the Vancouver Games, a new crowd has started forming in the lounge every night: some of the old faces, some new, the Just-Outside-Boston kids I tried to avoid all fall, and the random kids from the exotic locales Middlebury loves to court, all rooting for the red, white and blue. But while the games have certainly been a welcome distraction for me, they have seemed to leave something more to be desired.

Don't get me wrong, I love the Olympics, both winter and summer, and am essentially glued to the TV for 17 days every two years. And I'm just as much for the red, white and blue as the next Joe Six-pack. But I think in a small way, my enjoyment of the games has been tainted by something I can only identify as akin to Toqueville's American exceptionalism. Whether or not this is true, I have this idea that few other countries can compete on the level that we can, which seems in some ways to sap my enthusiasm.

While watching the U.S. women's hockey team crush everyone else, I got little pangs inside, yearning for a good NFC East matchup or a little AL East rivalry. But then I remembered, we're not actually good at everything. True, we're good at our sports, football and baseball (neither of which are now in the Olympics), and we can hold our own on the ice (even though most of "our" players in the NHL are actually Canadian), but there are a lot of sports out there we can't even compete in.

So when you feel like you'd rather go pick a fight with a JOber about trading Babe Ruth than watch Shaun White win another gold medal (sorry, broboarders), flip the channel to ski jumping, watch us get our asses kicked (for a change) by the Austrians, and get a little national pride going. Remember, you may be a New Yorker, a Bostonian, or even a New Jerseyite, but for 17 days, we're all red, white and blue.

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	Team	Carpenter's Comments	2/18	
1	Men's b-ball (23-2)	Great game against Trinity on Saturday. Way to keep it close for the crowd. We appreciate it.	1	
2	Men's squash (20-7)	Summers Cup is looking pretty cool — it sounds like a Mario Kart trophy.	7	
3	Men's hockey (16-4-4)	Six straight wins catapults men to second place. Tufts is a must-win, unless, we want thousands of sobbing townies on our hands.	4	
4	Women's swim. & diving	Third in the NESCACs. Fourth in the 'Great Eight.' First in my heart.	—	
5	Women's track and field	Seventh at New Englands. Awesome performance. You got served, Fitchburg State!	—	
6	Women's hockey (15-6-3)	Nice 5-0 win over Colby but bested in the rankings this week.	5	
7	Skiing	Fifth at the Williams Carnival is good but I am hoping for better this weekend.	2	
8	Snow sculptors	Snow sculptors without snow are like lax bros without crew socks.	—	

Men's basketball tops the 'Great Eight' once again after a win against the Bantams last Saturday. The squad takes on Colby at Williams next weekend.

Men's basketball edges out Bantams

By Steve Hardin
STAFF WRITER

Before the Middlebury men's basketball team could overcome the Trinity Bantams last Saturday, the Panthers headed into last week with one goal: to beat the Green Mountain College Eagles. Upon their exhausting trek to Poultney, Vt., the Panthers knew immediately that they would have their hands full.

They had played in some hostile environments before, but had no experience executing against glorified middle school teams in high school cafeterias, which would apparently serve as the venue for the ensuing contest.

By tipoff, the gym was packed with 63 frenzied Green Mountain College supporters compared to just two for the Panthers.

It also became evident that the title of Green Mountain varsity basketball player was one of the most exclusive in the country, seeing that they had decided to take just seven players on their roster.

Nevertheless, the Panthers appeared to be impervious to the odds stacked against them, opening up to a 38-19 halftime lead. Our beloved Robert Frost once said, "The world is full of willing people, some willing to work, the others willing to let them," and in the first 20 minutes, Andrew Locke '11 went to work, and the Eagles appeared willing to let him. He finished the half with 12 of the Panther's 38.

However, according to the account on the Green Mountain College Web site, "The Eagles showed brief signs of life in the second half, cutting the lead to 15."

Strangely, the recap on the Middlebury site did not interpret the same series of events as a sign of life, as the Panthers cruised to a 76-57 win. Locke also notched 11 boards and four blocks, while Ryan Sharry '12 and Nolan Thompson '13 each contributed 11 points of their own.

This past weekend, the Panthers opened up NESCAC tour-

nament play with a quarterfinal victory against Trinity College. The Bantams came out hot, opening up a 15-8 lead through the first nine minutes, and were able to keep the game tight throughout with Middlebury struggling, shooting an uncharacteristic 2-17 from behind the arc.

The teams exchanged blows throughout the second half before the Panthers, up by one at the time, forced a key Trinity turnover in the final minute. Jake Wolfin '13 went on to hit a pair of free throws and Sharry, who finished the game with 18 points, hit one of his own to ice the game after another fruitless Trinity possession.

Following the game, Locke credited 10-14 Trinity for the backs-against-the-wall attitude that the Bantams brought with them into Pepin, knowing their season would be over with a loss.

"The game Saturday was a little closer than we wanted," said Locke. "The Bantams played a great game, and with their season on the line, made it a very close game. The fan support we had was great. The energy in the gym really helped in the final minutes."

The next stop for Middlebury is next Saturday at Williams College for the NESCAC tournament semifinals.

A portion of the student body (who account for the support Locke referred to) has already committed to making the trip and any additional backup is both welcomed and encouraged.

The first game will take place against 19-6 Colby College, who probably does not have a chance. The championship game will take place on Sunday contingent on Saturday's result.



Andrew Podrygula
Andrew Locke '11 and Jamal Davis '11 reject a Trinity player at the boards.



Andrew Podrygula
Tim Edwards '09.5 stares down his defender in Saturday's NESCAC duel.

Women's hockey finishes weekend and regular season with win, loss

By Emma Gardner
SPORTS EDITOR

After securing its place as host for this weekend's NESCAC quarterfinal game against Hamilton, the women's hockey team had a weekend of ups and downs at home.

Ending their regular season with matchups against conference opponents, the women dropped last Friday's game in a 4-2 upset to Bowdoin before coming back to blank Colby 4-0 the next day.

Despite having won the past 12 games against the Polar Bears, the women experienced a day of missed opportunities on the ice Friday, overwhelming the Bowdoin goalie with shots that could not seem to find the back of the net.

Holding a 46-17 advantage in shots over Bowdoin, the Panthers' two goals came from Libby Miner '13 with 30 seconds remaining in

the first period and again at 8:23 in the second. Middlebury's solid lead was short-lived, however, as Bowdoin's Jill Campbell, Kayte Holtz and Dominique Lozzi fired off three lucky shots in rapid succession two minutes later, stealing

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Friday, February 19

Bowdoin	4
Middlebury	2

Saturday, February 20

Colby	0
Middlebury	5

the lead for good. Both Holtz's and Lozzi's goals came directly after a face-off, after which the Panthers failed to gain hold of the puck in what would prove to be fatal errors.

Bowdoin's Shelagh Merrill netted an insurance goal early into the third period; moments after Ashley Bairos '10 attempted to adjust the score of the game.

Unfortunately for the Panthers, Bowdoin's lead gave the Polar Bears enough confidence to fend off Middlebury's shots for the rest of the period, culminating in a loss for the home team.

"I think the biggest challenge in the Bowdoin game was our inability to pick up our game in the second period after the first goal went in," said Miner. "We let Bowdoin gain the momentum in the second period and we were unable to take it back during that time when they scored three goals. We were able to play our game again in the third period as we dominated in Bowdoin's end, but we just couldn't put the rebounds in."

The next day's game proved much more successful for the Panthers, whose 36 shots doubled the Mules' 18. Miner was once again a key player, netting two back-to-back goals for the Panthers in

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 22

Women's swimming & diving host NESCACs

By Molly West
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury women's swimming and diving team hosted the NESCAC tournament this past weekend, finishing in a solid third place. The meet ran from Friday until Sunday, and the competition was tight throughout the three days. In the days leading up to the meet, the ladies were working hard and staying focused.

"There is not much to say pre-meet except that we are on edge and hyped," said co-captain Katie Remington '10 and Emma Johnson '10 the day before competition. The senior leaders on the team kept up their energy throughout the week leading up to the meet, and fed their younger compatriots' minds with what competing in the NESCAC meet is really all about: competition, excitement and tradition.

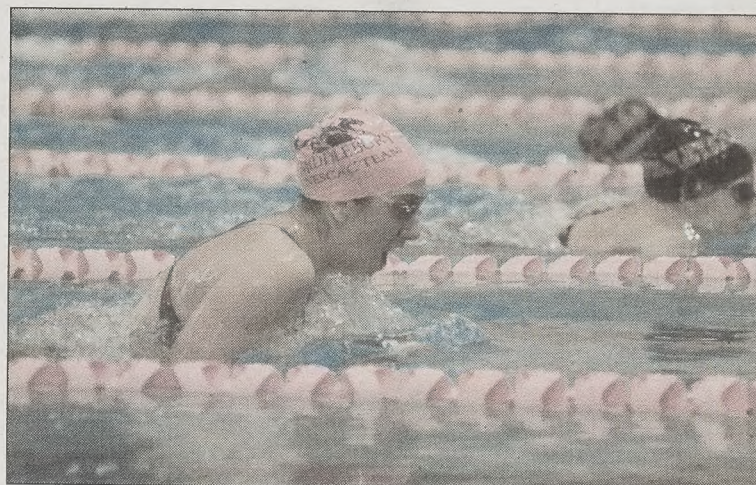
Williams came in first place, compiling a tally of 1,954 points. Amherst snuck into second with 1,376 points and Middlebury fell right be-

hind them with 1,148 points.

There were many notable individual accomplishments on the Middlebury squad. Diver Megan Collins '12 won the three-meter event and received 442.35 points, just missing the pool record of 444.65 points. She also took second in the one-meter dive and received Diver of the Meet honors. Additionally, the Middlebury diving coach, Lisa Gibbs, was named NESCAC diving coach of the year.

Several rookie swimmers turned in standout performances in the meet. Jen Friedlander '13 had an impressive first NESCAC appearance, seizing the NESCAC title in the 1000-freestyle, finishing in 10:18.30 and breaking the pool record. In addition to capturing that title, she also placed second in the 200-intermedley. Rookie teammate Nora Daly '13 had a successful weekend as well, capturing second in the 200-freestyle, third in the 50-freestyle, and third in the 100-freestyle.

SEE PINK, PAGE 23



Andrew Podrygula
The Pink Panthers swam solidly amid their customized pink lane lines.

this week in sports

Men's hockey

The Panthers go two-for-two on the doubleheader weekend preceding NESCAC play, page 23.



games to watch

Middlebury Carnival, Feb. 26-27

Men's hockey vs. Tufts, Feb. 27 at 4 p.m.

Women's hockey vs. Hamilton, Feb. 27 at 1 p.m.



Men's squash

The team delivers a dominating performance at Nationals, winning the C-flight, page 22.